



The Antiquary.



APRIL, 1902.

Notes of the Month.

AN interesting discovery of prehistoric lake-dwellings has recently been made at Colemere, near Ellesmere, in Shropshire. Whilst a field was being levelled, it was noticed that there were a number of small mounds in rows of clay, the rest of the ground being wholly of peat. A party of local archaeologists accordingly visited the spot, and trenches were cut and excavations made in several places. No implements were discovered, but layers of bark, beams of fir and oak, and bases of piles still upright, made it evident that the place, which is now very marshy, was once inhabited by lake-dwellers. The mounds are about 12 feet in diameter and 10 yards apart, and as yet about twenty-five of them have been noted. It is hoped that further excavations on the site will shortly be made.

In The Nineteenth Century and After for March, the late Sir Archibald Milman, until recently Clerk of the House of Commons, discusses the question, "Who composed the Parliamentary Prayer?"

The authorship of the beautiful Collect which the Chaplain daily recites in the House of Commons has often been discussed, but never settled. There is nothing to throw light on the matter in the records. It is only known to have been prepared in 1660 for the House of Lords, and presumed to have been adopted at the same time by the Lower House. Sir Archibald's conjecture is that the Prayer was written by John Cosin, soon afterwards Bishop of Durham.

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The sketch of this divine's career is full of interest; we can only quote one saying of a certain Puritan prebendary, who attacked him, when Dean of Peterborough, for his Laudian practices. He was called "our young Apollo, who repairth the choir, and sets it out gaily with strange Babylonish ornaments."

We are glad to hear that a Committee has been formed at Hereford to set in order the Bishop's transcripts of parish registers deposited there. It is estimated that the cost will be about £200, and steps are being taken to raise this sum locally. Dr. G. W. Marshall, F.S.A., is the leading spirit in this effort. The transcripts are not in very good condition, and will need a good deal of work. They commence about 1660.

We are very glad to hear that copies of the late General Pitt-Rivers's splendid archaeological works are at last available for purchase and general circulation. Hitherto these books have been known to a very limited public, as they were distributed privately, and their author always refused to issue them for general sale. Mr. B. T. Batsford, of 94, High Holborn, is now offering at special prices the remaining stock, consisting of a limited number of complete sets and some separate volumes. Full particulars as to prices can be obtained from Mr. Batsford. We imagine that many antiquaries who have not hitherto had an opportunity of obtaining these books will be glad to avail themselves of this opportunity, and others who have some of the volumes will be pleased to be able to complete their sets. Each set consists of seven quarto volumes, finely printed, lavishly illustrated, and handsomely bound. It may, perhaps, be of interest to not a few of our readers if we turn over the leaves of the set before us for their benefit. Four thick volumes contain the record of General Pitt-Rivers's excavations in Cranborne Chase and its neighbourhood. Everything the General did was done with the utmost thoroughness. He had the good fortune to inherit estates unusually rich in archaeological wealth, and for seventeen years he carried out a series of excavations in the most systematic and

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thorough manner. Not a scrap of pottery or relic of any kind escaped him, and the relative position of every article found was most carefully recorded. In Vol. I. the excavations described are those on the sites of several Romano-British villages actually within the limits of Cranborne Chase. The second volume includes the excavations near Rushmore, at the village of Rotherley, Wilts, and at Winkelbury, where the camp, the British barrows, and Anglo-Saxon cemetery offered a rich field. Vol. III. deals with the excavations in Bokerly Dyke and Wansdyke; while Vol. IV. treats of explorations made at Rushmore Park, the entrenchment on Handley Hill, Stone and Bronze Age barrows and camp at Handley, and at other places.



The excavations at Silchester and elsewhere have revealed much of the modes and conditions of life led by the Romans and Romanized Britons within walled cities. General Pitt-Rivers's labours in Cranborne Chase throw much light on the circumstances and mode of life of those who lived outside the cities; and not only on their conditions of life, but on their physical characteristics, for these volumes are as valuable to the ethnologist and anthropologist as to the archaeologist. Here in Vols. I., II., and III. are plates of skulls, accompanied by most exhaustive tables of measurements of both skulls and limbs found in the course of the work. There are also tables of measurements of the bones of test animals used for comparison with the bones of ancient animals. In the same volumes, besides various elaborate maps and folding plans, there are more than 200 plates of "finds." Ceramics, household implements, tools, ornaments, horses' shoes, objects of bronze, iron, bone—things, indeed, too numerous to mention in detail—all find illustration. Vol. II. is particularly rich in plans and sections of barrows, with plates of objects found in them, and of fibulae and other objects of bronze, knives and other implements of iron, pottery, earthenware vessels, quern-stones, and bone, glass, and flint objects. Here (facing p. 130) is figured that remarkable bronze object, consisting of a swan or a duck with a human head on its back, which General Pitt-Rivers considered unique; while facing p. 174 is a plate showing a

tablet of Kimmeridge Shale with incised ornamentation which was borrowed for the decoration of the covers of the volumes before us. There is also a most valuable folding plan of Rotherley village, showing the pits and ditches discovered during the excavations, and showing, further, the positions of the skeletons and other principal "finds." The illustrations in Vol. III., besides a number of plates of skulls, are plans and sections of the sites explored, with plates of bronze, bone, and iron objects, pottery, spindlewhorls, etc. Prefixed to this volume is a large folding map of ancient Dorset, Wilts, Somerset, and part of Hants. The frontispiece is an excellent portrait of the author. Both letterpress and plates emphasize and illustrate the importance to the archaeologist of every fragment and scrap of pottery and the like, and the importance of the accumulation of evidence. The illustrations in Vol. IV. are similar in subject to those in the preceding volumes, but are differently produced for the most part; they include many photographs and reproductions of wash-drawings. This fourth volume is in some respects the finest of the series, but we despair of conveying to the reader any adequate idea of the wealth of material, descriptive and pictorial, contained within the covers of these four portly volumes.



We have left ourselves little space to speak of the three thin quartos which make up the set of the works. *King John's House, Tollard Royal, Wilts*, is an interesting account of a building of the thirteenth century, with Tudor additions, which has always been known traditionally as King John's House. The illustrations include various views of the house, a plate with three views of the monumental effigy of Sir William Payne (*ob.* 1388) in Tollard Church—the most noticeable feature being the banded mail, which is known to occur in only four other effigies—and plates of the relics of various kinds found in and near the house. These latter include pottery, clay tobacco-pipes (probably of Elizabethan make), knives and forks, spoons, spurs, purses, buckles, brooches, coins, and locks and keys. The last-mentioned articles take us to the next volume of the set—a striking essay by General Pitt-

Rivers on the *Development and Distribution of Primitive Locks and Keys*. Here, after thirty-one pages of text, are 200 illustrations (in ten plates) of examples of locks and keys of all ages, which were collected by the General, and are now preserved in his museum at Farnham, North Dorset. The seventh and last volume of the set is of a somewhat different kind from those already described. It contains fifty plates of photographic reproductions (393 in number), beautifully done, of antique works of art from Benin—works which were obtained by the Punitive Expedition in 1897, and are now in the Farnham Museum. This was General Pitt-Rivers's last work. The plates are accompanied by a running commentary, in which the author points out the peculiarities of each work represented. The origin of these works remains uncertain. The natives could give no information, and the expedition, as the General remarks, was, "as usual, unaccompanied by any scientific explorer charged with the duty of making inquiries upon matters of historic and antiquarian interest;" but General Pitt-Rivers was probably right in thinking that we should not be far wrong in attributing these extraordinary works of art to European influence of the sixteenth century.

Since the foregoing Notes were written we have heard that all the complete set of General Pitt-Rivers's books have been taken up by booksellers in town and country, but doubtless Mr. Batsford, who still has copies of some of the volumes for sale separately, would be able to give inquirers the names of such booksellers.

At the annual meeting of the Orkney Natural History Society, held in the Museum at Stromness, Mr. Malcolm M. Charleson, F.S.A. Scot., President of the Society, read an interesting paper descriptive of a chambered mound which he discovered and opened on Kewing Hill, in the parish of Firth, in July last. The local name of the Kewing Mound is the Fairy Knowe, but this, like the Maes How (Maiden's Mound), in the same neighbourhood, is evidently a modern appellation. There is first a long, low entrance passage, then the central

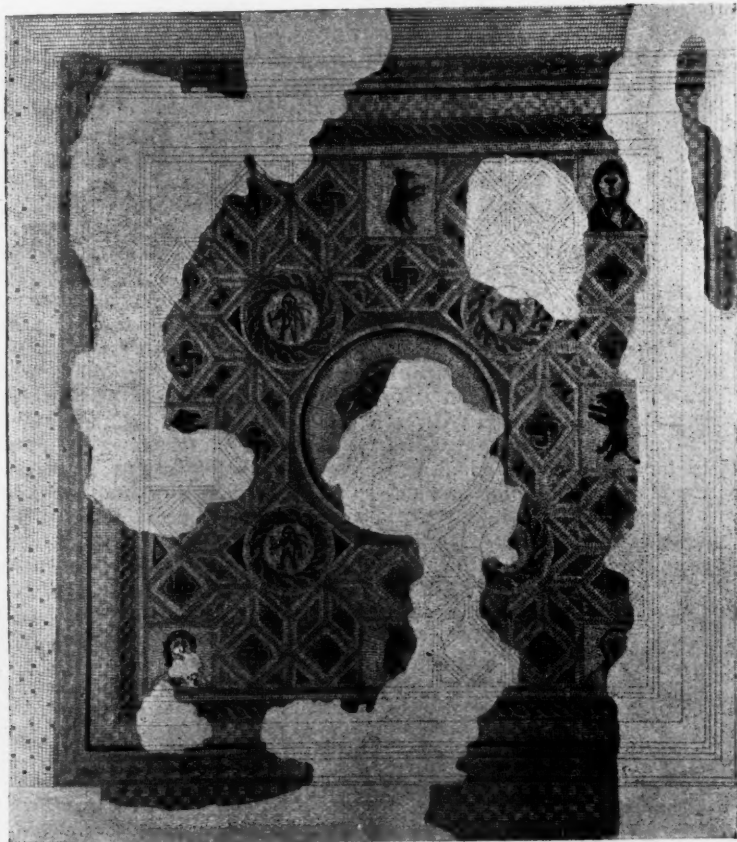
chamber, and entering from it four cells, the largest of which is divided in two, and near the entrance to this cell is a small recess, in which was found a human skull. The length of the main chamber along the east wall, which is slightly curved, is 11 feet 10 inches, and the length of the west wall is 10 feet 2 inches. The breadth of the chamber is 5 feet 3 inches at the north end, and 5 feet 8 inches at the south end, and the chamber is therefore of an irregular shape. The walls are dry built, and on the beehive principle, beginning to converge at a height of about 4 feet from the floor. The height of the chamber at the north end is 7 feet 2 inches. The four cells, which are oblong, and built also on the beehive principle, have entrances large enough for one to crawl through. They average 6 feet in height and 5 feet in length, the exception being the one on the west side, which is 10 feet long, with a partition halfway down its height dividing it in two. The entrance passage is 10 feet long and over 2 feet high, the roof being formed of slabs set on edge. Inside the main chamber, and also in the cells, Mr. Charleson found a large quantity of bones, including about a dozen human skulls and about two dozen skulls of the dog. Some of the skulls fell to pieces on being disturbed, but he has secured several human and about a score of the dog skulls. Specimens of each were exhibited at the meeting. No industrial relics of any kind were found in the course of the excavations, with the exception of a small portion of a steatite urn, which could have had no connection with the remains. Mr. Charleson expressed his indebtedness to Mr. M'Lennan, factor for the Marquis of Zetland, on whose property the mound is situated, for his kindness in allowing him to take steps towards preserving this interesting relic of prehistoric times by roofing it and placing a door on the entrance passage. The interior is now quite accessible.

The illustration on the next page, for the use of which we are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. J. E. Pritchard, F.S.A., shows the fine tessellated pavement, with busts of the seasons and figures of animals and of Cupids, which was uncovered during last



season's work at Caerwent, as stated in the report printed in last month's *Antiquary* (p. 92). *Apropos* of the excavations at Caerwent, we may note that they formed the subject of a very interesting lecture given at Clifton College, on February 20, by Mr. A. T. Martin, M.A., F.S.A. The

Caerwent possesses two attractions which are not found in Silchester. It was for some period, at any rate, a border city, and might be expected, therefore, to show a more distinctly Celtic influence than Silchester; and, secondly, owing to its position, there can be little doubt that the light of



PAVEMENT AT CAERWENT.

lecturer explained that so many Romano-British cities are still centres of life that systematic exploration has been impossible, save at such places as Silchester and Caerwent. Silchester has the advantage in several respects of the Caerwent site, but Mr. Martin well pointed out that, on the other hand,

Christianity was never extinguished within its walls; for long before the Saxons crossed the Wye they themselves were converts to the new faith.



The annual meeting of the Shropshire Parish Register Society was held recently at Shrews-

bury, the chair being taken by Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart., in the absence of Lord Windsor, President of the Society, through indisposition. The report showed steady progress. During the past year the registers of Selattyn and Tong were issued to members, and indexes to thirteen registers. Transcripts of sixty-six registers, from the commencement of each to the year 1812, are quite ready for printing, and twenty-one other registers are in process of transcription. During the four years of the Society's existence a bound and indexed printed copy of its register has been presented to no less than forty-three Shropshire churches. Some work has also been done amongst the Bishops' transcripts at Hereford, and many gaps in the registers there have been filled up from these transcripts. To show what voluntary work can be obtained from gentlemen interested in registers, it is pointed out that one indefatigable member has already copied forty-four complete registers, and is engaged on several others! Three members have most generously undertaken to pay for the printing, and to present to the Society the registers of parishes in which they are interested. This is a thing which might very well be imitated by kindred societies. The Shropshire Register Society is in a flourishing condition, and its great success is mainly due to the inspiring work of its founder, the late Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P.

Dean Stubbs's *In a Minster Garden: a Causerie* (Elliot Stock, price 6s. net), which we reviewed last month, has already gone into a second edition. This is not surprising, for the book has so much charm both of style and matter that it should appeal to a very large circle of readers. It is well described by the Dean himself as a talk of the old time and the new, "of day-dreams *horâ meridianâ* in my daily pacing of the Cloister Walk from Prior's Door to Refectory Wall; of imaginary colloquies invented to cheer the loneliness of convalescent hours in the Farmery Parlour . . . of gossip about old books and old stories;" and of much else of interest. Some of the illustrations suggest that in the season of flowers, now so swiftly approaching, the Deanery gardens must be a delightful haunt

of ancient peace, filled with the fragrance of sweet blossoms.

Professor Seybold, says the *Daily News*, has made two interesting finds during his task of cataloguing the famous collection of Arabic manuscripts at the Library of the University of Tübingen. The one should be of considerable interest to the members of the Royal Arch Chapters throughout the world. It consists of a treatise on "Points and Circles," and expounds the inner mysteries of the doctrine and ritual of the Druses of the Lebanon. The other is supposed to be the oldest manuscript of the *Thousand and One Nights*, and contains a story not to be found in any other known collection of these stories.

The month of June, we learn, has been provisionally fixed for what promises to be a delightful exhibition in the sleepy city of Bruges. It is proposed to bring together from various sources, including, if practicable, the churches and museums of Flanders, a representative collection of works by old Flemish masters. Examples by Jan Van Eyck should alone be worth a visit. But in addition we have Roger van der Weyden, Hans Memling, Gheeraert David, Quentin Matsys, Mabuse, Bernard Orley, and the rest. Bruges, once famous for its tapestries and its trade in wools, has sunk into commercial inanition; but just because its "busy life has fled" it is the fittest of all places to bring together works by these old-time painters.

Among the interesting books announced for early publication, we note a volume of *Medieval Stories*, translated from the Swedish by Mr. W. F. Harvey, M.A., to be issued by Messrs. Sands and Co., and *Zuni Folk Tales*, by the late Mr. F. H. Cushing, promised by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons. The latter book will include more than thirty stories recorded and translated during the collector's long and intimate association with the Zuni tribe in New Mexico. Another announcement of much interest is a new volume of the "Book-Lover's Library"—*How to Make an Index*, by Mr. H. B. Wheatley, F.S.A., to be issued by Mr. Elliot Stock. The subject, with which no one is more competent to deal than

Mr. Wheatley, will be treated both historically and practically.

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The report of the Worcestershire Historical Society for 1901 is, as in former years, a record of quiet and useful work. The membership stands at 227, and there is a good balance in hand, with a satisfactory excess of assets over liabilities. The issues for 1901 were Part IV. of Bishop Giffard's Register, Part II. of the Index of Worcester Wills, and the Lay Subsidy Roll of 1603. For the current year it is proposed to print a further instalment of the Index of Worcester Wills, two more Subsidy Rolls, and, if the council should be able to arrange it, some small portion of the Register of Bishop Guisborough.

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An interesting short history of Esher Old Parish Church, St. George's, has just been printed for private circulation. It is in quarto, with a frontispiece specially drawn for the work, and with numerous illustrations reproduced from photographs. It includes a long appendix of quoted authorities and a complete verbatim list of all inscriptions on the monuments, collated by two members of the new committee, which consists of the Rector and churchwardens (ex-officio) and three others, appointed to receive and administer subscriptions for the repair and preservation of the old church. The old church is of much historical interest, and has some remaining ancient Pointed architecture. The first recorded Rector was collated in 1292. The numerous monuments are inscribed with many royal and other names of interest. The last subscription for repair was in 1878, when Her late Majesty, Queen Victoria, contributed £25 to the fund, which has long since been expended. The only present means are about £20 in hand and a precarious income of about £7 yearly. It is supposed that £200 will, for a time, suffice to keep out wet, and to effect the more urgently needful repair and maintenance of the fabric alone. Subscribers of one guinea or more, sent to John Thornely, Esq., J.P., hon. treasurer, or to B. Arthur L. Batchelor, Esq., hon. secretary, both of Esher, will each receive a copy of the work.

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In the course of recent excavations in the quadrangle at St. James's Palace, known as

Colour Court, the workmen unearthed a number of human skulls and large bones, and also a leaden coffin containing the skeleton of a man some 5 feet 10 inches high. The upper slab of the coffin was in good order, and bore a cross in raised rope-work, extending its full length and breadth. It is probable that the site of these discoveries was a burial-place belonging to the ancient almshouse or hospital of St. James's, originally founded for the reception of "14 sisters, maidens, that were leprous, living chastely and honestly in divine service," and acquired about 1532 by Henry VIII.

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Countess Martinengo-Cesaresco announces that the opening of the Historical Congress in Rome is now fixed for April 6. Congress tickets, at the price of 12 lire, can be had from the secretary of the Congresso Storico, at the Academy of St. Cecilia, Via de' Greci, 18. Many entertainments and excursions are already arranged, amongst others a visit to Pompeii, where a special excavation will be made. The holders of Congress tickets are entitled to a reduction of 50 per cent. on the Italian railway fares and on the fares of the Italian Navigation Company. During the Congress the office of the *Italian Review* (90, Piazza delle Terme) will be open every afternoon for the benefit of English or American members who require information or any sort of practical help. The committee have received adhesions from Lord Rosebery, Lord Avebury, Sir John Evans, and other distinguished Englishmen. Sir Alfred Lyall will be delegate for the Indian Government.

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A Stuart relic of unquestionable authenticity was offered for sale on March 11. This was the pale blue silk vest which was worn by Charles I. on the day he was beheaded. After the execution it came into the hands of Dr. Hobbs, the King's physician, who attended him on the scaffold, and from him it passed into the possession of Susannah Hobbs, who married Temple Stanger, of Rawlings, Oxfordshire. In the autumn of 1898 this "sky-blue vest" was bought by the late Mr. Brocklehurst for 200 guineas. Now it was offered for sale by order of his executors, and again fetched 200 guineas, being

knocked down at that sum to Mr. Berney Ficklin.



The following rather surprising announcement appears in the *Athenæum*: "The Council of the Royal Historical Society have decided that the publications of the Society shall in future be issued only to Fellows and subscribing libraries. This measure was considered necessary in the interests of the Fellowship of the Society owing to a considerable demand through the trade for volumes of the 'Camden Series.' A very large quantity of bound and unbound stock, representing the surplus copies of more than 200 publications issued by the Society, has now been destroyed." We cannot say that we admire this destruction of much valuable matter for reasons that are essentially commercial. Whatever course the Council might think it right to pursue with regard to future publications, this wanton destruction of the existing stock seems to us to savour of the "methods of barbarism."



Notes on the Antiquities of Brough, East Yorkshire.

BY THOMAS SHEPPARD, F.G.S.

(Concluded from p. 83.)

IN addition to the British remains, quite a large and interesting series of Roman relics has been found in the neighbourhood. Roman coins have been picked up in large numbers, especially at Brough. A little book, now scarce, *The Stranger's Guide to Ferriby*, etc., published in 1841, contains the names of some of the Emperors whose coins have been found at Brough. Mr. W. Richardson, of South Cave, possesses some from the same place, including those of Constantine I., Constantine II., Claudius Gothicus, Maximianus Herculeus, and Allectus. Pottery of Roman date is quite frequently found—in fact, fragments are thrown out in almost any part of the village where excavations are made. Mr. Richardson has two exception-

ally fine and perfect Roman vases. There is a water-jug of the same age from Brough in the Hull Museum. Several small fragments of earthenware have been found on Mill Hill. In the Mortimer Museum, at Driffild, there is a large bronze bowl, supposed to be of the same age as the pottery, also from Brough. A few months ago a Roman interment was unearthed in Prescott's gravel-pit. It consisted of a vase, a very fine spear-head of iron of an unusual shape (Fig. 1), the antlers of a red deer, and other bones and teeth. With the stupidity that seems to characterize the average British navvy, the vase was smashed



FIG. 1.

to pieces and the fragments scattered in all directions. It was only with the greatest difficulty that a single piece could be found. The spear-head and deer antlers had been taken care of by Mr. Prescott, and have since been given to the Hull Museum. The spear-head, however, had not escaped the fatal curiosity of the workmen; it had been knocked against a cart-wheel to see what it was made of, and the point was broken off and lost.

Councillor J. C. Hall, in his *History of South Cave*, describes other remains of the

same period, including a huge pig of lead, with an inscription upon it. Phillips, also, in his *Rivers, Mountains, and Sea-Coast of Yorkshire*, refers to a slab with a Roman inscription having been found in the district.

Other similar references might be given, but enough has been said to indicate that formerly Brough has been a station of no mean importance. In the first place, it is on the direct road from Lindum (Lincoln) to Eboracum (York), and the ferry existed between Winteringham on the Lincolnshire side and Brough on the Yorkshire side of the Humber. Though there is a good Roman road between Lincoln and Winteringham, no such road exists between Brough and York. The inference to be drawn from this is that a British road was already in existence between these points. That a British settlement occurred at the former place has been amply proved. In several instances in Yorkshire the Romans utilized British roads in this way, as has been pointed out by Phillips.

From the various facts brought forward there certainly seems good ground for believing that Ptolemy's Petuaria is now represented by Brough. I am quite aware that opinions differ on this subject, and that each writer seems to have his own idea as to where Petuaria really existed. Patrington, Driffield, Lowthorp, and Beverley all have champions in their favour, and doubtless there are many places besides that have an equal claim; but I have noticed the remarkable fact that in nearly every instance the place chosen as the site of Petuaria has been the town or village at which the respective authority resided. Perhaps the writer whom we should most respect is Phillips, who, however, argued in favour of Beverley; but the almost entire absence of Roman remains at that place puts it out of court. In the work already referred to, Phillips dispenses with the idea of Brough occupying the site of Petuaria in the following words: "Brough Ferry, the point where the Romans crossed the Humber, is by many writers vainly thought to be Petuaria of Ptolemy." The manner in which the question is dismissed, without any proper reason being given, is not quite characteristic of that author. Mr. J. R. Boyle, F.S.A., has more recently gone into this question rather

fully in his *Last Towns of the Humber*. He says: "We have still to determine the site of Petuaria. Ptolemy places it due west of Spurn, and exactly south-east of York. There is but one place which in any way answers both these requirements. That place is Brough, which has from time to time yielded such evidence of Roman occupation as to leave no doubt that it was an important station. In this respect Beverley is in no sense its rival, for there extremely few remains have been found, and these have been of an altogether unimportant character." The discoveries since made, described above, certainly add some force to Mr. Boyle's argument.

In addition to the specimens already described, the Brough neighbourhood has yielded most interesting and important relics relating to the Anglo-Saxons. The Anglo-Saxons, of course, visited Eastern England after the Roman occupation. They used a great variety of implements and ornaments of metal, and their earthenware was of a coarse nature and hand-made, in this respect more resembling the British than the Roman earthenware. The sepulchral vases of Anglo-Saxon date can readily be recognised and distinguished from those of other periods by the curious and characteristic ornamentation. This usually consists of a series of short lines, crosses, dots, triangles, etc., impressed upon the clay whilst soft.

As in the case of the Britons, our knowledge of the Anglo-Saxons is largely due to the inferences to be derived from an examination of the various objects found buried with the bodies. The Anglo-Saxons had many forms of burial. Occasionally their remains were interred in the upper part of a large tumulus or barrow of British age. Some exceptionally interesting remains of Anglo-Saxon date have been found whilst opening barrows. In other instances the bodies were buried close together in cemeteries. This is the general method. Cemeteries of this kind must be very frequent on the wolds; several are already known, but in nearly every case these have been encountered quite accidentally during engineering operations. Mr. J. R. Mortimer has examined two or three such cemeteries which occupied the hollow, or "foss," at the base of a British

entrenchment. In these cases, the foss being only narrow, the bodies extended in a long line. Sometimes they are laid out at full length, whilst in others they are doubled up, with the knees at the chin. In the former instance relics are rarely found with the burials, whilst in the latter ornaments and other objects of gold, silver, bronze, iron, bone, or glass are occasionally obtained. From this it is inferred that the burials in which the bodies are doubled up, and are accompanied by various relics, belong to the pre-Christian era, whilst those laid at full length, unaccompanied by ornaments, date after the introduction of Christianity.

In addition to the forms of burial already described, the Anglo-Saxons practised cremation extensively. A few charred bones—all that remained of the burnt body—were collected and placed in a "Cinerary urn," together with occasional pins or brooches, sometimes burnt and sometimes not. These urns were then buried, side by side, in "cemetaries." They varied considerably in size and quality of finish, as well as in the extent of the ornamentation. They exhibit no signs of having been turned on a wheel, after the manner of Roman pottery, though some of them are so perfect in shape that it is difficult to understand how they were made without.

Strange to say, examples of both the ordinary and cremated burials occur in the vicinity of South Cave, near Brough. A cemetery containing urns with cremated remains at Sancton has been examined by Mr. J. G. Hall and others, and some unburnt skeletons, laid at full length, have recently been excavated by myself. These occurred not many miles distant from South Cave. A description of the cremated burials was printed in the *Transactions* of the East Riding Antiquarian Society for 1897, by Mr. Hall. It seems that this cemetery was first noticed many years ago, when a marl-pit was being made. Mr. Foster, of Sancton, Canon Greenwell, and Professor Rolleston examined the locality, and obtained some urns. These are described in *Archæologia*, vol. xiv. The urns obtained by Messrs. Greenwell and Rolleston are now in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford.

Those found by Mr. Hall were very soft

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and friable when unearthed, and though they were usually in fragments and imperfect, one or two fairly complete vases were obtained. It is pointed out that although many had only been imperfectly burnt, all had been subjected to the action of fire to a greater or less extent, and are not merely sun-dried. "Their ornamentation, as regards form, seems to be the result of careful pressure from within, which caused the well-kneaded clay to project at various angles from the surface; while their decoration, in the way of figure or pattern, appears to have been produced by stamps made of wood or bone, or by lines made by a sharply-pointed tool. In some cases the markings exhibit great care and delicacy of design, while others are characterized by simplicity, or even rudeness. Some few are perfectly plain. The mouths of the urns are sometimes large and open, and in other cases much contracted, and, as a rule, are lipped, the curve below the lip expanding more or less gracefully to the shoulder, and then receding again to the base, which is generally flat. As to the contents of the urns, most of them contain fragments of bone, which bear traces of the action of fire to a greater or less degree. Some of the bones are extremely white, and all are quite free from extraneous matter, scarcely any charcoal being mixed with them, indicating that they must have been collected from the place of cremation with more than ordinary care. Such a pious and reverential custom is described by Homer when he speaks of the white bones of Hector being gathered up from the funeral pile by his brethren and companions. In some cases the ashes appear to have been placed in the urn while still hot, and are found in one hard mass; in others they may have been allowed to cool. In an urn of a perfectly plain type and large size were found part of a comb and a number of pieces of bronze. In another and very perfect urn of graceful pattern the remains of a knife, similar in form to a modern pruning knife, though much decayed, were found amongst the bones. But, as a rule, most of the urns contained neither implements nor ornaments." Fibulæ, ring-brooches, bone combs, beads, small bronze tweezers, bronze pins, etc., have also been found in these vases at Sancton.

The first signs of the cemetery in which the Anglo-Saxon skeletons were buried were found on an excursion of the Hull Geological Society a few months ago, though from time to time human bones have been turned out of the sand-pit. From the obviously great age of these bones, it has not unnaturally been inferred that the remains of a race of which no written records are extant lie buried there beneath the soil. Were it not for accidental artificial excavations, we should have yet remained in ignorance of the fact that the present peaceful hamlet was probably once occupied by a busy and powerful community. There are no mounds nor anything else at the surface to indicate the presence of the burials beneath.

Some time ago a skeleton was unearthed which had obviously suffered from rough treatment. The back of the head had been broken in, and the body was doubled over, the skull having been found near the pelvis. Later still a child's skeleton was found, and though the bones were much decayed, a triangular hole on the side of its skull was evidence of the manner in which it had met its death. Other remains of a more or less significant character were subsequently found. Recently a skull, in several fragments, was presented to the Hull Museum. The pieces were put together, and, hearing that there were other bones still to be obtained, I visited the place, and, the necessary permission to dig having been kindly granted, succeeded in procuring some interesting specimens. These will not only give additional value to the museum collections, but will throw a little light on the early history of the East Riding. With the assistance of a local antiquary and the gentleman who gave the skull to the museum, digging operations were commenced. The leg bones having been found, it was not a difficult matter to follow them up, bone by bone, and it was soon ascertained that the skeleton of an adult, in good preservation, was buried. The bones were in excellent condition, and, after drying a little, were carried away without difficulty. The pelvis, vertebrae, ribs, arms, and even the small wrist and finger bones were present, thanks to the suitable nature of the soil in which they were buried. The skull was in very fair condition. Unfortunately, it was slightly crushed,

probably with the weight of earth above, with the result that the friable bones of the face were much damaged. A little care, however, has enabled the whole to be restored. The lower jaw is remarkable, as it contains no molars, and the bone has completely grown over the place where they had been. There are, however, ten teeth in the front, packed closely together, the length of which indicates a fair age for their owner. The upper jaw contains fourteen teeth; the front ones corresponding with those in the lower jaw are much worn, whilst the double teeth have been hardly worn at all. All the teeth, not only in this, but in the other instances from this locality, are very perfect. In some cases they are worn down, but they are invariably flat and regular, and rarely show any signs of decay. The lower jaw was not in its normal condition when found, but had dropped, and was resting on the cervical vertebrae.

With this skeleton was found a single triangular-shaped piece of coarse pottery of an early type, but absence of ornamentation prevented its precise age being fixed. On reaching the skull, it was noticed that the leg bones of another skeleton were resting upon it. As, however, "the shades of night were falling fast," further excavation had to be abandoned for the time being. So far, no objects of any description had been recorded with any of the remains found, and beyond the fact that the excellent condition of the teeth pointed to the great age of the skeletons, there was no evidence to indicate the precise period to which they belonged. On resuming operations, however, a discovery was made which solved the problem. The two leg bones which had been previously noticed proved to be in poor condition, and, with the exception of one of the arm bones (humerus) and traces of ribs, all the skeleton had decayed. This is somewhat strange in view of the excellent condition of the previous skeleton. Such bones as were found, however, enabled the position of the interment to be ascertained. The body, like the last, was laid on its back at full length. Across it, in the position occupied by the belt, traces of iron were found. By carefully removing the soil with a pen-knife, it was ascertained that there had undoubtedly been a belt con-

taining a small iron sword or knife, a dagger of the same material, and a "steel" (Fig. 2). The sword was of the characteristic short description, with one cutting-edge, and was pointed slightly inwards. The handle, of course, had decayed, and the part formerly covered by it

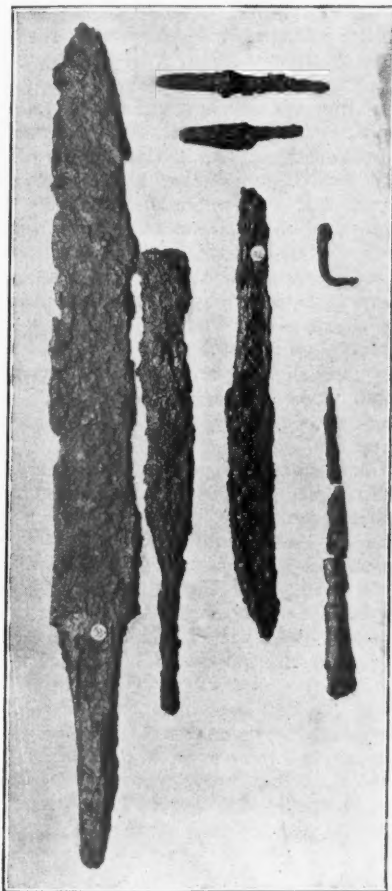


FIG. 2.

is not quite so much oxidized as the remainder. It is $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and 1 inch broad, and is shaped something like a carving-knife. Laid along the back of this, and parallel with it, is the steel for sharpening both the sword and the dagger. It had evidently been placed

in the same case with the sword. The "steel" is the shape of a cricket bat, having a small handle, and is 6 inches long and $\frac{5}{8}$ inch broad. At the left-hand side of the belt, and lying horizontally, with the point inwards, was the dagger, a small object resembling an opened pen-knife. A little higher up a collection of iron objects was found, which had apparently been enclosed in a pocket or wallet. Among these are two or three awls, or pricklers, of iron, which had evidently had handles of wood, traces of which still remain. One had a handle of bone, which is still preserved. There is a curious small object of iron, the use of which is not quite obvious. Altogether, as will be seen, there is quite an interesting collection with this interment. The objects positively prove that the various burials described are of Anglo-Saxon date, and are consequently over a thousand years old. They have all been placed in the Hull Museum. Anglo-Saxon interments are well known for the great number of iron objects they contain, and undoubtedly the use of this metal was of great assistance to the Anglo-Saxons, and contributed largely to their successes.



Quarterly Notes on Roman Britain.

By F. HAVERFIELD, M.A., F.S.A., Hon. F.S.A. Scot.

No. XXXV.

IN my last article, published in the *Antiquary* of last November, I reviewed the discoveries of Roman remains recently made in the South and Midlands, and purposed to deal with discoveries made in the North in a subsequent article. Circumstances of no public interest have delayed that article, and it may be well now to preface it with such notes on discoveries in the South as have accumulated since last October. These are not inconsiderable.

South of the Thames I have to report, in the first place, a villa found in February under a mound in Greenwich Park, close to the Maze Hill entrance. Coarse *tesserae* of red brick, bits of *opus signinum*, a mortar floor *in situ*, coloured wall-plaster, roofing tiles, and a few potsherds were all that had been discovered at the moment of writing; but they indicate clearly the existence of a villa, and I hope it may appear sufficiently well preserved to be worth excavating.

The discovery of another villa is announced to me by Mr. H. J. Moule, of Dorchester. It is at Weymouth, in Newberry Terrace, and includes portions of a rather large mosaic, with small *tesserae*, in five colours. Another mosaic, showing the ordinary cable-pattern, has also been found in Dorchester itself, at the gasworks. I may also add here that some Roman pottery was found last year at Littlehampton, and that the inscription found at Worthing, to which I alluded in my last article, has been printed, with some notes of mine, in the *Worthing Gazette* (February 12).

From the Midlands there is less to report. There were rumours, both last October and last January, that definite traces had been found, on the south side of Birmingham, of the Roman road which once traversed the area of that city, and is often called Icknield or Rysknield Street. Both the alleged finds, however, proved on examination to be not Roman. At Leicester another "pavement" was found early in 1901, at the corner of Highcross Street and High Street, and about the same time a similar discovery was made four miles north of Leicester, close to the Great Central Railway cutting at Rothley Station—foundations, a hypocaust, tiles, potsherds, and so forth. I have not heard whether the latter discovery was followed up. It is not the first discovery of Roman remains made at Rothley. I am indebted for information respecting it to Mr. W. T. Tucker.

A few small finds have to be recorded from Yorkshire. A Roman coffin has been found at Chapel Allerton, outside Leeds, and another in Sycamore Terrace, York, the latter with an inscribed piece of bone in it. Near Husthwaite a small hoard of coins was found in digging a trench for water-pipes to supply villages in the valley from Hood Hill.

The coins were found underneath a thick slab of stone and resting on another stone, and had been buried in a bag, probably of leather; they were about 400 in number, "small brass," and in very bad preservation. Mr. Nutley, of Dalton, was good enough to send me twenty-five to look at; these, as far as they were legible, dated from the reigns of Valens, Theodosius—that is, from the end of the fourth century.

Further north, in the Mural region, the usual diggings of the Cumberland Excavation Committee have been continued for the eighth successive year. The courses of the Wall and Vallum, near Castlesteads, were traced, and the important discovery was made that the Vallum, instead of passing north of the Castlesteads Fort, bends round so as to pass south of it. This discovery is likely to help seriously towards explaining the object of the Vallum, though it is, unfortunately, impossible here to go into that very intricate problem. A few "centurial stones" have also been found on and near the Wall, but no inscriptions of serious importance.

Considerable discoveries have been made in Scotland. The Scottish Society of Antiquaries, continuing, with the aid of the Hon. J. Abercromby, their admirable researches into Roman Scotland, excavated the Roman site of Inchtuthill, near Delvine, ten miles north of Perth. Here they found a rectangular earthwork inclosing about forty-five acres, with indications of wooden buildings inside it, a few bits of Roman pottery and a "second brass" coin, which has been pronounced by competent authority to be probably an early issue of Domitian; it is little worn, but badly weathered. Outside this earthwork are other Roman vestiges, and, in particular, a stone bath-house—40 by 130 feet in area—which closely resembles the little bath-houses found so often outside Roman forts. The importance of the site is that it commands the valleys alike of the Isla and the Tay, and therefore controls the ways from Aberdeen and from the central Highlands to Perth and the south. I have elsewhere suggested, as a working hypothesis, that the remains may date from the campaigns of Agricola, with which the one coin found seems to coincide. The

Society also excavated in the South-West of Scotland, at the alleged "camp" of Rispain, hard by Whithorn, but I understand that no Roman remains were discovered here. Further, I have to notice a find made at Falkirk: a large stone, over 4 feet high, sculptured in high relief, with a scene that is often represented on Roman military tombstones, with small differences in detail—a rider brandishing a sword and shield drives his horse over a prostrate foe, a naked barbarian, with shield and short sword. The object is said to have been found last December 3 feet below the surface, about 100 yards from the forts at Camelon, which the Society recently excavated, and is, I am told, in astonishingly good preservation. The technique and details of the sculpture are peculiar, and perhaps more than peculiar.

CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD,
March 2, 1902.



Two Sketches in Catherington Church, Hants.

By J. RUSSELL LARKBY.

THE figure of St. Michael weighing souls, illustrated at Fig. 1, is painted in a deep brown on the north arcade of the nave at Catherington Church, Hampshire. There is nothing new, perhaps, in its treatment, but, at the same time, the example is of much interest. The central figure of St. Michael is wonderfully full of vigour, and he grasps his sword in a manner typical of the avenging power of God against the evil depicted below him. His habit is distinctly ecclesiastical of the fourteenth century, consisting of the albe, with amice and orphrey; the girdle worn about the waist is rather unusual. The balance—the awful balance of life and death—is seen just above the knees. To one extremity clings an imp, endeavouring to

claim the soul of the dead by lending his weight to the arm—an attempt frustrated by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Such is the simple reading of this vigorous painting designed to teach the illiterate of the avenging power of God, and the intercessory power of the Holy Mother.

The other sketch (Fig. 2) shows a Calvary attached to the north-west angle of the north



FIG. 1.

chapel. It is of Norman date, and much weathered; its position is not altogether conducive to its proper preservation. Had the cross been re-erected in the churchyard to serve its original purpose, then one would have had less cause for complaint; but to affix such a valuable object to the angle of a wall seems to utterly destroy its meaning—a meaning which surely is as powerful now as in the twelfth century. The fragments as

they stand are some 8 feet in height, so that when complete in all its parts, the Calvary could not have been less than 12 feet high.

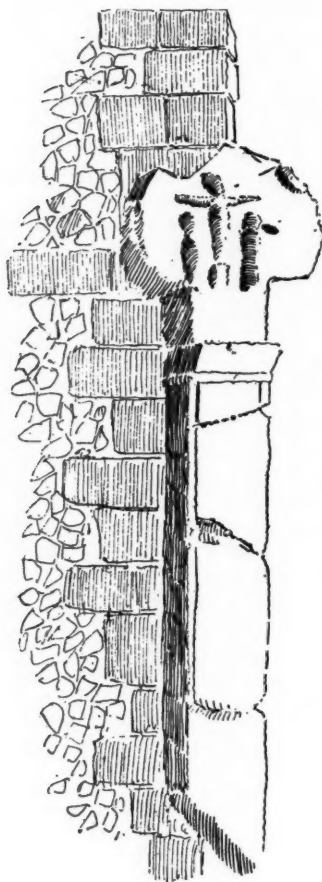


FIG. 2.

The fragments were found in the churchyard some distance underground, but a careful search failed to produce the steps or base.



Scalds and Troubadours : A Voyage from the Orkney Islands to Palestine, anno 1152.

By J. G. FOTHERINGHAM.

IN the very laudatory address delivered by the Arctic explorer Nansen, on the arrival of the Duke degli Abruzzi at Christiania, from his recent polar voyage, an appropriate allusion was made to the early voyages of the Scandinavian Vikings. These latter were, in fact, the hardy pioneers in early navigation, which art sprung up and was cultivated among them through natural causes, amid the exigencies of their surroundings. The high snow-clad mountains of their native peninsula were often inaccessible, so as to debar them from all intercommunication, had it not been that the numerous inland fiords provided them with an equivalent means of locomotion. Hence, instead of roads and the use of waggons, they had these numerous waterways, and, being provided with boats, they acquired great dexterity in their direction and management. The sea formed the only patrimony among these toilers of the deep. From it, as fishermen, they drew their subsistence, and became inured to the hardships of such a calling. The poet Ovid gives a much similar account of the origin of seafaring habits and the art of navigating by a knowledge of the stars, as such was developed in the earliest ages among the Greeks in their archipelago :

Pater. . . .
 . . . Moriensque mihi nihil ille reliquit
 Præter aquas; unum hoc possum appellare
 paternum.
 Mox ego, ne scopulis hærerem semper in isdem
 Addidici regimen dextrâ moderante carinæ
 Flectere, et Oleniæ sidus pluviale capellæ
 Taygentemque Hyadasque oculis Arctonque
 motavi,
 Ventorumque domos et portus puppibus aptos.
Metamor., Book III.

But it was not only on their inland seas that the Northmen exercised their skill in boating; such was put to a severer test among the numerous outlying islands on their wild and exposed coast, and more especially in their attempts in ocean navigation. It is interesting to remark, in the accounts of their early

efforts in sea-travelling, the amount of weather lore they had acquired through minute observation of all the changing features of sea and sky. The flight of birds—both land and sea birds—was also important to them while at sea, as indicating the proximity of land. It was not uncommon for them before embarking to have two or three ravens dedicated to the gods in their pagan temples, which they took on board their ships with them, so that when they required to learn something of their position at sea they allowed one of them to escape, trusting to the instinct of the bird to find its way to land, and noting whether it flew away in their direct course or whether it flew backwards, or if it returned again to the ship. The set of the sea and its changes of colour were also signs for them to go by. King Alfred, in one of his Saxon poems, gives the following bit of weather-lore derived from such experience :

So oft the mild sea,
With south wind,
As gray glass clear
Becomes grimly troubled.

When one thus takes into account the very limited knowledge and the scanty means at the command of the Northmen in their early expeditions, one cannot but admire their innate courage and power of endurance, which alone enabled them to accomplish such important results. At a very early period they had discovered the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, and the continent of North America, on each of which points they had established colonies. During the latter part of the ninth century they had also obtained definite possession of the North of Ireland and an equal part of the North of Scotland, with the adjoining islands of Orkney and Shetland.

Some of the Norwegian Earls who ruled over the Orkneys and the North of Scotland were very distinguished men. Among the most remarkable of them was Earl Ronald, who was canonized in 1192. He was a native of Agdir in Norway, and his name was originally Kali. His mother was a sister of Earl Magnus (St. Magnus) of the Orkneys, who up till 1115 had ruled there conjointly with his cousin, Earl Paul, each of them holding half of the group of islands. But at the date mentioned, Paul, having killed Magnus, had

seized on the entire possession. Young Kali, in his home in Norway, was instigated both by his father and mother to try and regain possession of the half-share of the islands that had previously belonged to his uncle Magnus. His mother even advised him to change his name from Kali to Ronald in order the better to ingratiate himself with the inhabitants of the islands, as she stated that Ronald Brusison, a previous Earl, had been one of the most popular of all the Earls of Orkney, and that it would bring him good luck. The suzerain, King Sigurd, of Norway, confirmed to him the grant of the half of the islands that had been held by his uncle. In trying to assert his claim in opposition to Earl Paul, he had a long and severe struggle, and suffered more than one serious reverse. At length he made a vow that if he were ultimately successful he would build a church at Kirkwall more magnificent than any existing in the islands, and dedicate it to St. Magnus. He ultimately obtained his wish, in 1136, and shortly thereafter he laid the foundation of the cathedral of St. Magnus, in Kirkwall, that still remains as a memorial of both uncle and nephew.

Earl Ronald became subsequently famous as a warrior and a scald, or poet. He may very well be considered a characteristic type of that intrepid and adventurous people who, having wrested Neustria from the feeble grasp of Charles the Simple, of France, made a stepping-stone of it later, to enable them to plant their power and might in England. The Northmen were no doubt regarded by the Franks and other Southern nations at this time as ruthless barbarians, against whose fury prayers were to be addressed to Heaven. It is useless to state that such opinion was groundless, as the Northmen, even at this early period, were quite as advanced in the arts of civilization as their neighbours. No doubt, their only point of contact with these neighbours was the sword's point, and this was certainly not the best means of enabling them to appreciate or judge of each other. And even at a later period, when, through the course of events, they were brought into closer contact with such neighbours in France and England, it was as a dominant race, obliged at all hazards to maintain its hold on the nations it had subjugated. The power

of repression they were thus obliged to exercise could not but have tended in some measure to their detriment by fostering sentiments of oppression, and even cruelty, among them.

But, without following up this too general point of view, it may be better to consider the character of Earl Ronald as a scald, and not as a warrior. In him courage was not ruthless force; it was tempered with a large amount of humane and generous enthusiasm. He was considered to be very courteous and affable to his inferiors. He is farther described as being of middle stature, well built, with light auburn hair, and as being very handsome. His speech seems to have turned almost naturally into verse. When even quite young he acquired a great facility and a high reputation in the scald's art of alliterative versification. The first part of the metrical series termed *háttotal*, written by him about the year 1145, still exists. It is not easy to convey in any translation the ideas embodied in scaldic verse. The exigencies of the alternative rhythm obliged the poet to be often diffuse, and rendered his expressions far-fetched. The coined epithets that he delighted to employ are, therefore, not easily conveyed in another language, and sometimes even they are not very intelligible. The following is given as a very literal translation of one of his early efforts:

At the game-board I am skilful;
No fewer than eight arts I know;
Runic lore I well remember;
Books I like—with tools I'm handy;
On the snow-shoes I am nimble,
As with bow, or with oar;
And also an adept am I
On the harp and in making rhymes.

As a proof of his proficiency in the latter art, he is said to have been joint author of a rhyming dictionary, which Torfeus states to be still extant in the library of Upsala. The following anecdote related of him will help still further to show his affable and generous character, and testify that what he stated of his knowing how to use an oar was not an idle boast.

"It happened one day, south in Dunrossness Bay, in Shetland, that a poor old peasant remained long standing beside his boat while all the other boats had rowed out to sea as soon as they were ready. Thereupon there

came to the peasant a man with a white cowl on his head, who asked him why he did not row out to the fishing as the other boats had done. The peasant replied that his crew had not yet come. 'Peasant,' said the man with the cowl, 'wilt thou that I row with thee?' 'That I will,' said the peasant, 'but I must have my boat's share, for I have many bairns at home, and I strive to provide for them as I best can.' They then rowed out towards Dunrossness Head and Hund Holm. The roost, or tidal current, was very rapid where they were and the eddy strong; they proposed to remain in the eddy and to fish out of the roost. The man with the cowl sat in the bow of the boat and rowed with a pair of sculls, while the peasant fished and bade the former to take care that he did not let the boat be drawn into the roost. To this the cowed man paid little heed, so that a little later they found themselves in the roost and carried away by the current. Thereupon the peasant became sore afraid and began to cry. But the cowed man said to him, 'Be quiet, peasant, and do not cry, for the hand that let the boat into the roost will be able to pull it out again.' He accordingly rowed out of the roost, on which the peasant was very glad. They next rowed ashore, and the peasant asked the cowed man to divide the fish; but the latter said he might divide them himself, and that he would not take more than a third part of them. There were many people come to the landing-place, both men and women and many poor people. The cowed man gave all his fish to the latter, and was preparing to go away, but on leaving the beach, while climbing over the low cliffs or *brakes*, the ground being slippery from recent rain, he missed his footing, stumbled, and fell off the cliffs. The woman who first observed his tumble laughed much at his appearance, as did also the other bystanders, whereupon the cowed man remarked: 'The girl mocks much at my uncouth dress, and laughs more than becomes a maid. Early this morning I went to sea; few could know an Earl in a fisher's garb.' He then went away, and afterwards it became known that the cowed man had been Earl Ronald. The saying, 'Few could know an Earl in a fisher's garb,' became subsequently a well-known proverb in the islands."

Earl Ronald, while on a visit to King

Ingi, in Bergen, about the year 1150, met a Norwegian named Eindredi Ungi (the younger), who had arrived there the previous summer from Constantinople, where he had long been engaged in military service, probably in the well-known Væringian body-guard of the Greek Emperor, which was formed of Northmen with some Saxons who had left Eng'land after the Norman Conquest. The Earl entered much into conversation with Eindredi, and inquired of him about things in the East, so that one day this latter remarked to the Earl that it seemed strange to him that such as he did not desire to go there, where they would be honoured above all others. On hearing this remark several of the Earl's followers spoke of the project, and advised the Earl to take the leadership in such an expedition. Erling, one of the counsellors of the Norwegian King, made a speech in support of the proposal, wherein he stated that he would consent to join the party of the Earl if he would agree to be their chief. And as many men of note seemed eager to undertake the journey, the Earl consented to it. It was thereupon resolved that none of the subordinate members of the expedition should have larger ships than those of thirty benches, and that no one but the Earl should have an ornamented ship.

Earl Ronald returned home to the Orkneys in the autumn. On his departure King Ingi gave him two long and very fast ships, specially built for rowing. Those the Earl named *Fifa* and *Hjalp*, and embarked on board of them with a large quantity of costly presents that he had received from friends in Norway. But a storm broke out shortly after their departure, and both ships were dashed to pieces on the coast of Shetland, near Gulberwick. The men were all saved, but the most of their stores were lost. The Earl, says the saga, bore himself, as usual, like the bravest of the brave. The power of the tempest seemed to have inspired his muse, as all he said was in rhyme. Having taken a gold ring from his finger, and while toying with it, he sang the following :

Thus I hang the hammer-beaten
Hand-ring from my rounded fingers ;
Thus I thrust my finger through it :
So the nymph of crashing waters
Threw me joyful in a rock-rift
There to hang on by my fingers.

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The Shetlanders were glad to receive the Earl, and when they inquired of him about the voyage, he replied :

Both my ships on beach went crashing,
While the surges swept my men off ;
Sore tormented by the billows
Were the friends of *Hjalp* and *Fifa*.
Certainly this misadventure
Of the danger-seeking rovers
Will not soon be quite forgotten
By those who there got such a ducking.

The mistress of the house where he had found shelter having brought him a fur cloak, he held out his hand to receive it, and laughingly sang :

A shrunken fur-coat here I shake,
Surely 'tis not ornamental :
In the ship-field roll our clothes—
Field too fast wherein to find them ;
All the young sea-horses we there left
Lately decked in splendid garments,
As we drove our masted steeds
To the crags, across the surges.

(To be concluded.)



A North Country Album.*



R. FOTHERGILL'S *Album* contains a most varied collection of sketches of the signs, signboards and sundials in North Yorkshire and Durham, character sketches, studies of animal and bird life, picturesque landscape, old buildings, and the like. Much of the contents hardly comes within our scope, but there is still plenty of matter of interest to the antiquary. The sketches, we may say at once, though varying greatly in value as regards their subjects, and though occasionally of somewhat unequal merit, are as a whole most graphic and striking, and are excellently reproduced. The coloured frontispiece is charming. An unusual feature of

* *A North Country Album*, by George A. Fothergill, M.B. With 140 illustrations by the author. Darlington: W. Dresser and Sons, 1901. Oblong 4to., pp. xxii, 126. Price 6s. net.

The illustrations to this notice are reproduced by the courtesy of the author.

P

the collection is the inclusion of several old inn bill-headings of bygone days, which are decidedly quaint.

20009



SIGN OF THE "FOUR ALLS."

The signs and signboards shown are in great variety, and not a few of them are

commonplace enough; but others give pleasant glimpses of old doorways, and of the picturesque fronts of ancient houses. The sign of the Four Alls, shown on this page, is found in many parts of the country. Mr. Fothergill's example is from the village of Ovington. There is a house with a similar sign by the roadside on the way from Market Drayton to Newport, Shropshire. Some years ago, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, speaking in the House of Commons, referred to an inn sign called the Five Alls, the "Lord Chancellor who pleads for all" being added to the four already named. But we have never seen an inn with such a sign, nor have we found it anywhere recorded.

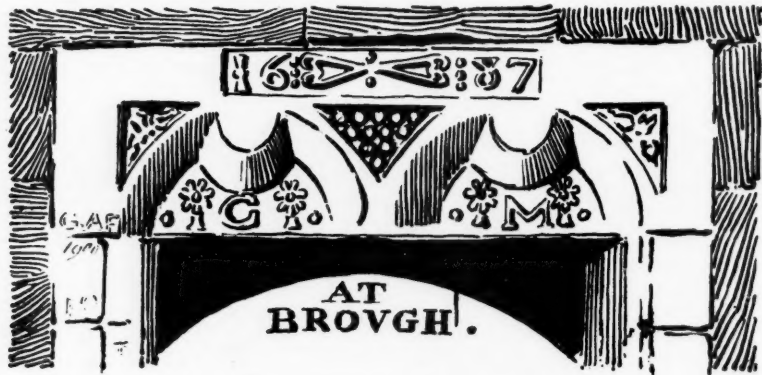
Some of the miscellaneous sketches are very attractive. The old house at Richmond, Yorkshire, shown on p. 109, reminds us of the late William Morris's delightful Kelm-scott retreat. A sketch of an old doorway in Petergate, York (p. 27), shows beside the door a quaint flambeau or link extinguisher of a scoop-like shape, unlike the few London examples still to be seen in St. James's Square and a few other places in the West End. The character sketches on pp. 43 and 113 show that Mr. Fothergill is master of the effective line. The back view of the farmer on the former page, in which the effect is produced by a very few lines, suggests the art of Mr. Phil May.

The illustrations reproduced on the next page but one show the top of an old dated doorway at Brough, and the old Blackwell Mill at Darlington.

At the end of the *Album* are given a few examples of sundials. One ancient specimen, fixed in a corner of the mill at Blackwell, is made of wood, and has no figures at all on its face. The dial at Monkend, Croft, shown on the next page, is by William Emerson, an eccentric character, of whom Mr. Fothergill gives a full and interesting account. Emerson, born in 1701, was the son of a school-master, worked as a stonemason, wrote largely on mathematical subjects, and besides all his physical, scientific, and literary work, managed to indulge pretty frequently in heavy drinking-bouts. He and his pupil Hunter put up a number of sundials in the villages of Hurworth and Neasham, and of these Mr. Fothergill shows three. It is certainly curious



AN EMERSON SUN-
DIAL MONKEND. CROFT.



DATED DOORWAY.



BLACKWELL MILL.

that none of these Emerson dials are figured in Mrs. Alfred Gatty's well-known book.

The letter-press throughout the *Album* is adequate on the whole, though the author's English is shaky. Such a sentence as "There are fashions in signboards like in everything else" fairly sets one's teeth on edge, and it is to be regretted that the Introduction is disfigured by such misprints as "nomme de plume," "Cambden Hotten," and "Rox-burge Ballads."

L.

Thatched Churches.

BY THE REV. C. H. EVELYN WHITE, F.S.A.

(Concluded from p. 73.)



STRONGLY incline to the opinion that reed thatch for church roofs was largely brought into use in the Middle Ages, not primarily on account of any acknowledged superiority, but as offering the least possible weight for

walls to sustain, which walls were often known to rest upon soil of the most treacherous description. The particular localities where thatched churches are found offer strong confirmation of this. It is not improbable, as we have suggested, that in isolated cases the introduction of an elaborate timber roof, taken, for example, from one or other of the despoiled monastic houses, necessitated a covering which, like reed thatch, possessed the essential qualification of lightness. It is noticeable that thatch-covered churches occur (or rather formerly occurred) in groups in reed-producing districts, and here the marshy state of the ground may often have found suitable provision in aid of the sustenance of the church walls.

An excellent insight into the process and cost of "reeding" a church may be gained by turning over the leaves of many an old book of church accounts. The following entries, which are extracted from the church accounts of the parish of Stockton in Norfolk, will be of some interest:

	£	s.	d.
1626-7			
It. pd to Mr. Stone . . . for twoe loads of reed for the Church ...	1	6	8
It. for bringing it to the stath by water ...		2	4
It. for stathage ...		4	
It. to the Boweman for his fees	1	0	
1627-8			
It. for reeding the Church ...	15	0	
* * * *			
1634-5			
It. reed for the Church . . .			
3 fathoms ...			xx
It. layd out to the thatcher for rushes & bindings & broaches w ^{ch} he used to roove the Church w th all & for wages ...			xv
1686-7			
Itm. pd Mr. Harvy for 155 fadum of Reed for y ^e Church	4	15	6
Itm. for feryng of y ^e Reed from Saint Olves (St. Olaves) ...	1	0	0

I shall not attempt to give a complete list of remaining thatch-covered churches, owing to the difficulty of attaining accuracy in its compilation. It must be deemed sufficient to mention the following as now or formerly displaying thatch as a roof-covering either for

the entire church or parts thereof. Several that are here included have, I am aware, disappeared during the last thirty or forty years. At one time these thatched churches were far more general, but fire and decay, not to mention the influence of the Restoration movement, have jointly contributed to the partial extinction of the special feature that distinguishes them, while in addition the difficulty of maintaining the thatch in a satisfactory manner must continue to prove detrimental to its existence.* And notwithstanding the warm commendations of the thatched church *per se* which we sometimes hear from those who would scorn the use of thatch for their own dwellings, a sense of propriety and the fitness of things is so far observable that the desire for its continuance is diminishing in proportion as a quickened reverence for the house that should be "exceeding magnifical" increases.

NORFOLK. †

Acle.
 Barningham, Barton Bendish (St. Andrew),
 Belton, Beechamwell, Billockby, Blo' Norton,
 Brampton, Bridgham, Broome, Buckenham
 (Old), Burgh St. Margaret, Burgh St. Peter,
 Burlingham.
 Chedgrave, Claxton, Clippesby, Coltishall,
 Crostwick, Croxton.
 Eaton, Edingthorp.
 Filby, Fornsett St. Mary.
 Geldeston.
 Hackford, Hales, Halvergate, Hassingham,
 Heckingham, Hempstead, Horning, Horsey,
 Horsford, Horsham St. Faiths.
 Ingworth.
 (?) Kempston, Kirby Bedon.
 Larling, Lessingham, Limpenhoe.
 Mautby, Marlingford, Melton (Little).
 Norwich (St. Etheldred).
 Ormsby.
 Palling, Paston, Potter Heigham.
 Reedham (name derived from the extensive
 growth of reed in the marshes), Rockland.

* In some districts the facilities for constructing roofs of this character have greatly diminished of late years, and the consequent difficulty of re-instating them has proved too serious an undertaking for many a parish.

† It is interesting to observe that the "Sedge," the "Rush," and the "Reed," are all represented in Norfolk place-names.

Salhouse, Scoulton, Seething, Shelfanger, Shouldham, Sisland, Sloley, Somerton (West), Stockton, Stokesby (re-roofed with thatch in 1856), Swafeld.

Thime-cum-Ashby and Oby, Thompson, Thorpe (next Haddiscoe), Thorpe (next Norwich), Thurlton, Thurton, Tivetshall (St. Margaret), Trimmingham, Thugarton, Thwaite (St. Mary).

Wacton, Walsham South (St. Lawrence), destroyed by fire 1827, Waxham, Wheatacre (All Saints), Wickhampton, Woodbastwick, Worstead.

Middleton.

Pakefield.

Ringsfield, Rushford, Rushmere (St. Michael).

Sapiston Shipmeadow (until 1856), Stuston.

Theberton, Thelnethan, Thornham Parva.*

Uggeshall.

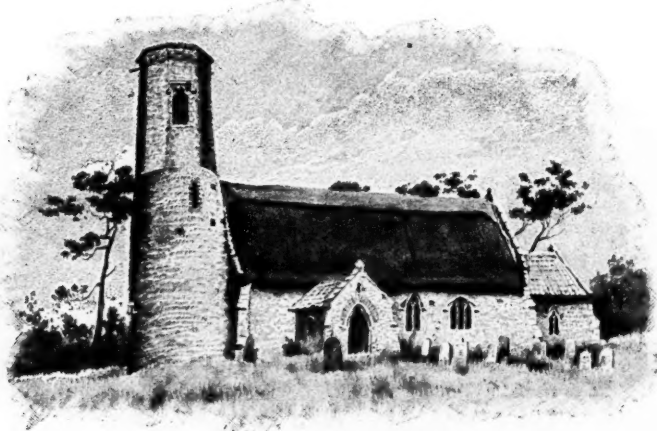
Westleton, Weston.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

Coveney.

Rampton.

Stanton, Long (St. Michael).



EDINGTHORP CHURCH, NORFOLK.

SUFFOLK.

Ashby.

Barnby, Barsham, Belton, Blundeston (removed in 1849), Bramfield, Butley.

Coney Weston, Cove (North), Cove (South), Covehithe.

Elveden (until 1869), Eriswell.

Freckenham (until 1870), Fritton.

Gorleston, Gisleham.

Hawstead (until 1780), Herringswell (until 1869, when the church was destroyed by fire, caused by overheating a chimney passing through the roof, which ignited the thatch), Hepworth, Hinderclay (until 1842), Hopton.

Icklingham (All Saints), Icklingham (St. James), Ixworth Thorpe.

Kirkley.

Leiston, Livermere Magna, Lound (until 1846).

Stuntney.†

Thetford St. George (near Ely).

It is not a little remarkable that in this fen county there should be so few thatched churches. An examination of county gazetteers, etc., for the past fifty years furnish no other instance than those mentioned.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

Markby.

Rigsby.

Somersby.

We fear the experience of incumbents of thatched churches would tell against the re-

* This church has a low tower, which is thatched as the church is) with reed.

† Early in the last century the tiles were taken off and a roof of thatch substituted, but the thatch is no longer there.

tention of this particular form of covering. In a certain sense the thatch may be regarded with pleasurable satisfaction as an uncommon feature, but, writes an East Anglian Rector, whose successor has been instrumental in removing the thatch, "I cannot blame him, for it was at best a *fearful joy*, and an endless trouble and expense. Every year it required dressing down by a skilled workman to remove moss and dirt, and this made a great litter. But the worst part was the havoc made by starlings and sparrows; they pulled out the reeds by 'armfuls,' and new reeds were costly and difficult to get. Only one man in the neighbourhood could patch the old work with new reed; an ordinary thatcher was of no use at all. One year, in despair we dressed the roof with tar, and it not only soaked in, but through, and made the interior of the church almost unendurable. If the present Rector, a man of great taste and of conservative tendencies in architectural matters, could wisely have retained the thatch, I am sure he would have done so."

This is by no means a solitary instance. Another East Anglian Rector tells a like tale of painful experience. His ancient thatch-covered church, the successive Rectors of which had for generations been largely non-resident, was to a great extent at the mercy of a churchwarden, a warm advocate for the retention of the thatch,* who, moreover, virtually assumed absolute control over the church fund, to which he in no way contributed. In his attention to the thatch he wrought incalculable mischief and damaged the fabric. Had not this official's motions been checked still further harm would have been done. The church, rendered by the agency of the thatch "warm in winter," must needs be heated. To this end, on his own initiative, a hole of considerable dimensions was thrust through the great thickness of the nave wall (piercing an interesting contemporary fresco) in order to admit a large flue-pipe, which was thereby brought into such close contact with the thatch that the very reeds were blackened and made rotten by the

smoke, imperilling the safety of the structure. By the same irresponsible instrumentality, with a view to stay the havoc wrought by birds, the thatch was besmeared with a thick coating of tar. Not only did this expedient fail to correct the abuse, but for a very long time the congregation suffered from a singularly inodorous atmosphere. To make matters worse the tar poured down the sides of the ancient walls, and one of the fourteenth-century buttresses of the chancel was considerably injured.* The presence of thatch thus became provocative of what it may be hoped was only a new evil and a solitary instance. Be this as it may, the safety of an historical building ought not to be placed in jeopardy. The retention of a highly inflammable material (rendered doubly so by a coating of tar) that at best offers the singularly slight advantage of picturesque effect, and of rendering the church "cool in summer and warm in winter," clearly ought not to be defended in the face of so great a danger. Sparks from a flue or threshing-machine, or over-heating,† or the discharge of a gun, etc., not to mention lightning, have often led to the destruction of a thatch-covered church, which, but for the dry and rotten roof material, would have been spared. Only very recently a Suffolk church, in the Diocese of Ely (Hepworth), that had been long thatched with reed from the neighbouring fens along the line of the Little Ouse and the Waveney, was completely destroyed by fire caused by the ignition of the roof timbers, which were in contact with a stove chimney. This led to the firing of the thatch, and from that moment the church was doomed.† It must have been a truly piteous sight to see the blazing thatch falling down into the burning building from the flaming roof, thus hastening its complete destruction. In A.D. 1590 the church of Charing, co. Kent, was burnt down owing to the discharge of "a birdinge peece . . . which fired in y^e shingells, y^e day being extreme hott and y^e same

* Another dangerous device was to shoot at the birds, as they appeared upon the thatch, with an utter disregard of consequences.

† The heating apparatus, etc., we need to remind ourselves, is the invention of modern times. A thatched church had not of old this danger to contend with.

* I have heard it gravely suggested that it is in the interest of a parish to retain the thatch covering the church, seeing that it facilitates the presence of a skilled thatcher and is thus advantageous to the farmer and his class!

shingells very dry."* Needless to say, in the case of a thatch-covering the danger would have been far greater.†

It is with no desire to be rid of "hoary antiquity" that this paper is written. Those who are acquainted with the writer will acquit him of any such design. Neither would he willingly delete one single page from so cherished a monument as that presented in the structural history of an ancient parish church, written as it is by the finger of time at the instigation of the church's benefactors. Yet, without conventional bias, pledging himself to no man's ideas, or to a particular theory, be it ever so recent, popular or *cliquish*, he would plead for the removal at any fitting time, after mature consideration, of what he cannot help regarding as a feature of some interest, but one which it would be well to regard as a thing of the past.



The Antiquary's Note-Book.

A ROCK-HEWN WINE-PRESS.

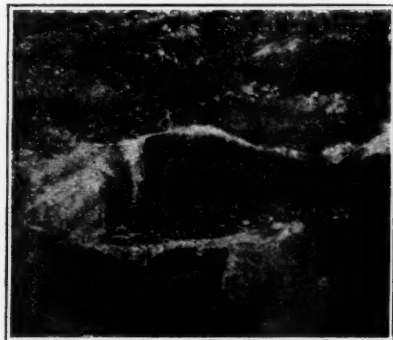
THE photograph here reproduced of an ancient rock-cut wine-press, discovered on Mount Carmel, was recently taken by the writer. The Palestine mountain-sides are studded with rock-tombs, and many old wine-fats and cisterns are also to be found intact. This particular wine-press is situated just above the town of Haifa, near the foot of the mountain, and in the midst of vineyards.

In olden times the grapes were placed in the higher part of the press and there trodden until the juice ran down a shaped gutter into the reservoir below. The wine-fat is no longer hewn out of the rock, for the owners of vineyards are usually Mohammedans, who may not make wine out of their grapes. But in

* Oak or beechwood shingles are used in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and Hants for covering churches far less than formerly.

† Insurance Companies of course require a much higher premium in the case of a thatched church.

some districts in Palestine these ancient wine-presses are still used by the natives for



pressing grapes whose juice is boiled and stored away for winter use as "dibs," or grape honey.

MARGARET SHIRLEY.



Antiquarian News.

[We shall be glad to receive information from our readers for insertion under this heading.]

SALES.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON AND HODGE concluded yesterday a two days' sale of works of art and antiquity from various sources, including the following articles: A white shaped Lambeth dish, with coat-of-arms, and inscribed "Unto God only be honour and glory," £17 (Harding); another, with coat-of-arms, and dated 1654, £17 (Harding); a Lambeth nest of three cups, with entwined handles, dated 1661, £17 10s. (Harland); a Lambeth wine-bottle, inscribed "Claret," and dated 1651, £20 (Phillips); another, inscribed "Welcome my friends," and dated 1661, £19 (Wolverton); and a plain Fulham brown ware mug, with engraved silver rim, and a very fine embossed silver medallion portrait of King William III., £16 10s. (Rathbone).—*Times*, February 26.



MESSRS. HODGSON AND Co. included in their sale last week: Reeve and Sowerby's *Conchologia Iconica*, 20 vols., £80; Curtis's *British Entomology*, 8 vols., £13; *Microscopical Journal*, 1861-97, £42 5s.; Sander's *Reichenbachia*, 4 vols. (3 in numbers), £14; Curtis's *Botanical Magazine*, 102 vols., £34 10s.; *Alpine Journal*, 1864-93, £24 10s.; Kipling's *Works, édition de luxe*, 21 vols., £12 15s.; *South Kensington Museum Catalogues*,

7 vols., £12; Frankau's Eighteenth-Century Colour Prints, £16 10s.; Pitt Rivers's Excavations in Cranborne Chase, etc., 6 vols., £9; Hentzner's Journey into England, presentation copy from Horace Walpole, £9 10s.; Milton's Paradise Lost, with the seventh title-page, 1669, £14 10s.; and Paradise Regained, with the rare "Licensed" leaf, £14. The sale also included an autograph letter from Charles Lamb and one from Shelley, which realized £10 5s. and £11 respectively.—*Athenæum*, March 1.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON AND WOODS sold yesterday a small collection of Old English porcelain, including numerous Chelsea groups and figures of high quality, the property of Captain Reiss; also choice examples of English and other porcelain, old French and English decorative furniture, and objects of art from various sources. By far the most important lot in the sale occurred among some miscellaneous property, and consisted of a pair of Chippendale mahogany chairs, with open backs with pierced vase-shaped centres, elaborately carved with scroll foliage, flowers, shell, and gadroon ornament, on carved cabriole legs, the seats covered with damask. For this lot bidding was started at 50 guineas by Mr. Letts, who, however, gave up the contest when the bidding reached 500 guineas, the two final competitors being Mr. Partridge and Mr. Duveen, the former of whom became the purchaser at 1,000 guineas. That is, we believe, the record price for Chippendale chairs, the nearest approximate price being 780 guineas paid at the Connop Hall sale, near Reading, in 1898; but these were State chairs, with silk needlework coverings.—*Times*, March 1.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON AND HODGE concluded yesterday a two days' sale of coins and medals, including the properties of the Rev. H. L. Nelthropp, Mr. W. Dymock, Mr. J. L. André, and Mr. L. Eades. The more important lots were: A gold gulden of Berne (1601), a medalet struck at Berne under the Helvetic Republic—both fine and rare—and a Basle ducat (1471), £31 (Schulman); gold Early British stater of Antedrigus, very fine and extremely rare, £14 15s. (Spink); another of similar type, but with minor variations, also fine and very rare, £18 (Spink); William IV. pattern crown, 1831, a brilliant specimen of this rare crown, £9 5s. (Spink); naval general service medal, three bars—Copenhagen, 1801; Trafalgar, Algiers—awarded to William Nave, £18 (Weight); Victoria pattern five-pound piece, 1839, by W. Wyon, £9 2s. 6d. (Weight); and Henry IV. London groat of light coinage, Mint mark, cross patée on both sides, £7 10s. (Ready).—*Times*, March 5.

PUBLICATIONS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

WE have received the *Transactions* of the Thoroton Society for 1900, which contain a varied collection of papers and documents. An account of the VOL. XXXVIII.

summer excursion of the society includes a paper on Syerston Church and descriptions of the ancient chapel, now disused, at Elston (the home of the Darwin family), with its fine twelfth-century doorway, of which an excellent picture is given, and of Sibthorpe village, where are a mediæval dovecote and a church, which has an interesting example of an Easter sepulchre and other features worth noting. Mr. G. W. Staunton contributes a well-illustrated paper on "Staunton and the Staunton Family," appended to which are a number of quaint medical and cookery receipts taken from seventeenth-century MS. books preserved at Staunton Hall. The prescriptions for snail-water, for remedies for convulsions, epilepsy, and so forth, Mr. Staunton calls "unique surgery notes"—a singularly inappropriate description, for they are not surgical, and are very far indeed from being unique. Old receipts for "snail-water" and other repulsive preparations abound. Notes on Cotham and Hanton—where the church is of great interest, and contains a richly ornamented Easter sepulchre (of which a fine illustration is given)—and on Newark, complete the *Transactions* proper. The remainder of the volume is composed of a brief but interesting and well illustrated paper on "Jettons, or Nuremberg Counters," and a reprint of the Catalogue of Portraits, Miniatures, etc., exhibited at the Exchange Hall, Nottingham, in December, 1900, which has already been noticed in these columns. Finally, there is the first part of the "Domesday of Inclosures" (*temp.* Henry VIII.), giving text and translation. The whole volume is well illustrated, and does the society much credit.

PROCEEDINGS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—*January 30.*—Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite, Vice-President, in the chair.—The Rev. G. H. Engleheart was admitted a Fellow.—The Rev. H. D. Rawnsley exhibited a number of stone implements found lately on Derwentwater, upon which Mr. C. H. Read submitted some descriptive and critical remarks.—Mr. J. G. Waller read some remarks on part of an early *tabella* of whale's bone, found at Blythburgh, Suffolk, and exhibited by Mr. Seymour Lucas.—Mr. R. Blair communicated a report as local secretary for Northumberland.—The Rev. A. E. Sorby exhibited and presented photographs of an alabaster tomb, with effigies of a knight and lady, in Darfield Church, Yorks.—Mr. C. H. Read exhibited a carved ivory mirror-case of the fourteenth century. This has every appearance of being the fellow of one exhibited to the society in 1808, and engraved in vol. xvi. of *Archæologia*, the ownership of which is at present unknown; it was again exhibited at the Bristol meeting of the Archæological Institute in 1851 by a Mr. Loscombe.—Mr. M. Browne, local secretary, exhibited a number of miscellaneous antiquities found in Leicester and neighbourhood.

February 6.—Viscount Dillon, President, in the chair.—The President exhibited, and read a paper descriptive of, a number of familiar letters ad-

dressed to Lady Litchfield by James, Duke of York, and Charles II. The President also exhibited a summons to the coronation of William and Mary, and letters of dispensation from attending the same for the Earl and Countess of Litchfield.—Mr. W. H. St. John Hope exhibited a number of lantern slides of selected examples of English armorial seals.—*Athenæum*, February 15.

February 13.—Viscount Dillon, President, in the chair.—Mr. Philip Norman, treasurer, read a paper on the destroyed Church of St. Michael, Wood Street. This was a church of early foundation, and was one of seven in the City dedicated in honour of St. Michael. It stood on the west side of Wood Street, with Huggin Lane on the south. From his will, made in 1422 and proved in 1429-30, it appears that John Broun, saddler, left a vacant piece of land (previously occupied by a house) immediately west of the church for the purpose of enlarging it and adding a belfry. The mediæval structure was partly burnt in the Great Fire, and rebuilt by Wren. On the final destruction of the church in 1897-98, the lower part of the fifteenth-century tower built on Broun's land was found almost intact, and it appeared that for the body of his church Wren had utilized the former foundations. Among interesting relics which came to light were specimens of fourteenth-century glass in good preservation and encaustic tiles. Mr. Norman showed views and relics of the ancient building, and pointed out that its ground-plan resembled that of the destroyed Church of St. Martin, Outwich. It had a square east end, and most likely a south aisle of the same width as the tower. He also said a few words about the recently destroyed Church of St. Michael Bassishaw, which had preserved mediæval remains of almost equal importance.—Mr. C. Pretorius read a short report as local secretary for North Wales, with special reference to the excavation of some early graves in Anglesey. He also exhibited three pretty examples of embroidered purses of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.—*Athenæum*, February 22.

February 27.—Viscount Dillon, President, in the chair.—Mr. Read exhibited a Saracenic glass goblet of the thirteenth or fourteenth century, stated to have been found at Aleppo on the site of a palace of the Khalif Harûn al-Raschid. It was pointed out how nearly it resembled in form and method of decoration the famous "Luck of Eden-hall," and the glasses of the same manufacture in the museums at Breslau and elsewhere, known as "St. Hedwig's glasses."—Mr. W. H. St. John Hope exhibited and presented casts of an impression of a third Great Seal of King Stephen, appended to an undated confirmation charter granted to Rochester Priory. Mr. Hope argued that the names of the witnesses suggested that the charter was issued while the King was in Normandy in 1137, and that the seal, of which that at Rochester is at present the only known impression, was probably made for the King's use when absent from England. Mr. Hope also read a note on the first Great Seal of Henry III., calling attention to the fact that not only was the date of its first use in November, 1218, recorded on the

Close Roll for that year, as was well known, but there were entries recording payments to Walter de Ripa, the goldsmith, for the silver of the seal and for making it. It was thus possible to associate with a beautiful example of the seal-engraver's art the craftsman who wrought it and the price paid for his work.—*Athenæum*, March 8.



BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—February 5.

—Mr. Thomas Blashill, Vice-President, in the chair.—Mrs. Astley exhibited a very elegant glass goblet of Venetian manufacture in perfect condition, believed to be of the fourteenth century, and the Rev. H. J. Dukinfield Astley two snuff-boxes, one of silver, the other of copper, the lids having figure subjects in high relief, Flemish in character, probably of late seventeenth-century date.—Mr. Patrick submitted for exhibition, on behalf of Mr. Sanders, of Bristol, an article called a "riff," an instrument for sharpening the scythe, made of cross-grained oak, greased on each side and powdered with a coarse grit-sand, very hard. It is an interesting survival of an ancient type still in use at the present day in the district of Glamorgan, which was once the domain of the "Kings of Gower." The grit-stone sand is found in the neighbouring hills, but those who know where to find it keep the deposits a secret, and when a sufficient supply has been obtained the place is covered up.—The chairman remarked that a somewhat similar instrument, but differing in shape, is still used in Yorkshire, but is there called a "strikel."—Dr. W. de Gray Birch, F.S.A., gave some particulars of the little known but one of the finest specimens of a fortified ecclesiastical building in Great Britain—"Ewenny Priory, Glamorgan," the history of which is so well given in the valuable work just published by Colonel Turbervill.

February 19.—Dr. W. de Gray Birch, F.S.A., hon. treasurer, in the chair.—Mr. A. R. Goddard, of Bedford, exhibited a piece of Roman mortar found near the site of the Roman villa which has just been unearthed in Greenwich Park.—Dr. Winstone exhibited an elegantly-shaped, wrought-iron, ornamental two-branch candle-holder, 7 inches high, the branches measuring 3 inches across from centre to centre, said to have been found in the Thames, together with some ancient keys, which were also exhibited. In the churchwardens' accounts of the royal parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields from the year 1525 to 1603 there are numerous entries of receipts for lights at funerals, the first entry being fourpence for small lights at the burial of a child. It was thought that the branch in question was for the purpose of holding the small lights used on such occasions.—Mrs. Collier read a paper upon "St. Christopher, and some Representations of him in English Churches," which was illustrated by several engravings, etchings, and coloured prints. It seems that St. Christopher may claim the distinction of being more frequently represented in cathedrals, abbeys, and churches in this country than any other saint, excepting only St. Mary the Virgin. So far as

Mrs. Collier's researches have gone she has discovered as many as 183 representations of the subject in various parts of the country, chiefly as wall-paintings. The paper dealt at length with the history, authentic and apocryphal, of the saint, and pointed out the cause of the great popularity he received, although for the first few centuries after his death he was treated with comparative neglect. Apparently there were not many churches dedicated to St. Christopher; there was, however, one in London, in Threadneedle Street, which was pulled down to make room for the Bank of England in the latter part of the eighteenth century. In the discussion which followed the paper, Mr. Gould, Mr. Patrick, Mr. Compton, the Chairman, and Mr. Goddard took part, the latter remarking that the churches at Bartlow in Essex and Llantwit in Wales are dedicated to St. Christopher.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF IRELAND.—February 25.—Dr. Perceval Wright, M.A., in the chair.—Mr. F. E. Ball, M.R.I.A., read a paper on "Rathmichael, co. Dublin, and its Neighbourhood, better known as Shankhill," illustrated by an excellent series of limelight views. Mr. G. Coffey, M.R.I.A., followed with a paper on "A Pair of Brooches and Chains of the Viking Period recently found in Ireland."

At the February meeting of the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND, Sir T. G. Carmichael, Bart., in the chair, Dr. D. Christison, secretary, gave an elaborate paper, copiously illustrated by lantern views, on "The Carvings and Inscriptions on the Kirkyard Monuments of the Scottish Lowlands," which have hitherto attracted little attention. Had it not been for a praiseworthy monograph on the mural monuments of Crail, by Mr. Erskine Beveridge, and incidental revelations in Mr. Rae Macdonald's heraldic papers, we should be quite ignorant of the character and appearance of the Lowland monuments of the post-Reformation period. The epitaphs and inscriptions upon them, however, had been dealt with in local memoirs, and more extensively for the north-eastern counties by the late Andrew Jervise. The present paper gave the results of investigations during the summers of the last six years, chiefly in the counties of Perth, Fife, Angus, and Mearns. The second paper, by the Earl of Southesk, K.T., LL.D., Vice-President, was entitled "Douglas, Percy, and the Cavers Ensign," and was read by Sir James Balfour Paul in the unavoidable absence of the author. In the house of Cavers, Roxburghshire, there is preserved a remarkable relic known as the Percy pennon. It is a flag of green silk, now about 12 feet long by 3 feet wide at the one end, tapering to the other end, which seems to have been forked, but is now incomplete. Its colours and devices are faded and indistinct, but they still show a saltire, two hearts, a lion passant, a tall cross, above which is a mullet, the motto "Jamais Arreyre" in Old English letters, and

several mullets on the remains of the forked tail or fly. Tradition regarded it as the pennon of Sir Henry Percy, captured from him at or before the Battle of Otterburn, in 1388, by James, second Earl of Douglas, who fell in the fight; but there were other variants of the tradition, and there had been much discussion on the collateral questions of whether the devices on the banner were those of Douglas or of Percy, or of both families mingled, and if so, whether Douglas badges were imposed on a Percy ensign, or Percy badges on a Douglas ensign. The object of the paper was to examine the several hypotheses and reply to these questions. The conclusions from the examination of the whole evidence were that the flag was a standard and not a pennon, and that it belonged to a Douglas, but more probably to a Douglas of the Angus branch than to a member of the earlier family.

At the meeting of the SUNDERLAND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, held on February 11, the Rev. D. S. Boutflower, M.A., read an interesting paper on the "Life and Work of the Venerable Bede."—At the March meeting on March 4, Mr. H. M. Wood, B.A., gave some interesting particulars of and extracts from the Monkwearmouth parish registers. Unfortunately, the old local registers were destroyed by a fire which took place in 1790; but Mr. Wood was able to quote from a list of burials from 1617, and from the Hilton papers dating from 1658 to 1723. An interesting quotation from the marriages was that which was solemnized on June 8, 1762, between the ancestors of Earl Grey—Charles Grey, of Howick, and Elizabeth Grey, of Southwick.

At the February meeting of the BRADFORD HISTORICAL AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, the Rev. Bryan Dale presiding, Mr. Harry Speight read a paper on "An Old Yorkshire Family and the Siege of Derry, 1689," which was devoted to an attempt to trace out the Yorkshire connections of Governor George Walker, whose signal services at the Siege of Londonderry had made his name famous. It had, Mr. Speight stated, been supposed that this worthy was connected with the family of Walkers of Bingley, who built Gawthrop Hall, but after minute investigation he found no evidence in support of that supposition. He quoted a large number of records which led him to the conclusion that the father of the famous Governor of Derry was associated with Wighill, near Tadcaster, and Kirk Deighton, near Wetherby.

The NEWCASTLE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES met on February 26, Mr. R. Welford in the chair.—Lady Edith Compton-Thornhill presented to the society, through Mr. Jos. Oswald, some fragments of a pre-Conquest cross-shaft from Carham Hall, with interlaced ornamentation; two copies of Hodgson-Hinde's volume of the *History of Northumberland*; and one gold and six or seven silver coins ploughed up from time to time at Carham. Through Mr. Oswald, Mr. R. Y.

Aynsley, of Gosforth, presented an eighteenth-century flail from Nottinghamshire. The following objects were exhibited and closely inspected: By the Rev. E. J. Taylor, F.S.A., of Durham, *Corpus Doctrinal Christiana*, by Philip Melancthon, MDLXXX. The book bears on its title-page the autograph of Bishop Morton, of Durham; by Mr. R. C. Clephan, F.S.A., two Styrian hunting-axes; by Mr. D. A. Holdsworth, an indenture of a fine in Hilary term, 12 Elizabeth (with curious embellishments), quoted in Mr. Welford's paper on local muniments; by Mr. John Ventress, a sketch from a rubbing of a stone door-head (dated 1599), removed from an old building in Elswick Park, and now in the grounds of Sir W. H. Stephenson, Elswick House; and by Mr. Thompson, of Woodburn, a curious wooden pen-case, with reservoir for ink and space for quill. Mr. Richard Welford read the second instalment of his paper relating to muniments of the town of Newcastle, in which occurred the names of persons who filled conspicuous places in local history. Mr. John Thompson, of Bishop Auckland, sent some notes on Stanhope Bridge, which were read by the secretary. The original portion dated, it seemed, from the early part of the fifteenth century, and evidently withstood the great flood of 1771, which swept away so many of the Wear bridges, probably owing to its foundations being built on the rocks. The widening of the bridge was carried out in 1792, and the cost would probably be defrayed by a rate or "cess." In 1837 the bridge was repaired by the county, new parapets being then built. Mr. J. C. Hodgson, F.S.A., contributed some "Proofs of Age of Heirs to Estates in Northumberland," and Mr. W. H. Knowles, F.S.A., a "Note on the Discovery of a Portion of a Roman Altar at Bywell." Mr. W. W. Tomlinson read a paper on "The Duke of Wellington on a North-Country Waggonway."



At the last council meeting of the BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY, held on February 18 at the Guildhall, Gloucester, there was a large attendance, Sir Brook Kay, Bart., presiding. This society is in full activity, and twenty-one fresh names were proposed and duly elected, of which seventeen were nominated by the hon. secretary for Bristol. Canon Bazeley (hon. general secretary) presented a capital report, and the hon. treasurer's statement was a simple one—a balance of over £1,100. The first part of the *Transactions* for 1901 (vol. xxiv., part i.) was issued in January, and the second part may be expected at the end of May. The spring meeting will include a visit to the typical Somerset churches of Yatton, Wrington, and Banwell; and the headquarters of the summer programme, extending as usual over three days, will be at the old-world town of Tewkesbury. These are sure to be attractive meetings.



Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.]

TRACES OF THE ELDER FAITHS OF IRELAND: A FOLK-LORE SKETCH. A Handbook of Irish Pre-Christian Traditions. By W. G. Wood-Martin, M.R.I.A. Many illustrations. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1902. 2 vols., 8vo., pp. xx, 405; xvi, 438. Price 30s. net.

It is difficult to see what useful purpose these ponderous volumes will serve. "The writer's object," he tells us, "has been simply to discharge the useful but humble rôle of presenting to the general reading public, in condensed form and popular shape, the many sides of a great subject." It is well to be told this, because otherwise no reader would guess that the author's object was condensation. What his idea of expansion may be passes the wit of man to divine. He begins by quoting the sarcastic advice lately given to "authors treating on Irish subjects, not to omit commencing their essays from the starting-point of the Biblical Deluge, so that no fact, direct or collateral, in the matter under consideration, might escape notice." So far from being put out of countenance by a rebuke too often well deserved, he "goes one better" than most Irish writers, "and the subject is opened somewhere in the early Glacial, or perhaps the Tertiary period." Nor are the collateral facts any more neglected than the direct ones; and he exhausts his ingenuity in dragging in anything and everything that can be imagined to have the remotest connection with the Elder Faiths of Ireland. What the Glacial period and a good many other things about which he chatters have to do with the Elder Faiths of Ireland, even in Mr. Wood-Martin's own view, may be gathered from the fact that it is only on p. 342 of the first volume that he proposes to "commence our examination of the traces of the ancient beliefs of the Irish." But if the reader indulge hopes that he is at length coming to the point, he will find himself mistaken. No serious attempt is made to unravel the difficulties of Irish mythology. The author has not made up his mind whether the Irish gods were deified mortals or "the nature-gods of the primitive Aryan family." He feebly touches the question, and goes wandering off again to the Emperor Vespasian, the banks of the Jordan, and his own verses.

Mr. Wood-Martin, however, is a man of industry. He has read widely, and is by no means destitute of an intelligent appreciation of the results of modern criticism. Unfortunately, his notion of presenting "in condensed form and popular shape the many sides of a great subject" is to fling the contents of his note-book pell-mell upon "the general reading public." If he had given his authorities categorically for every statement his book might have been of some use. His readers could then have sifted out the wheat (and there is wheat) from the chaff. He has of set purpose refrained from

giving them the means of doing this, partly because "it seemed too pedantic," partly from the fear of expanding the book into inconvenient bulk. The result is that it is rarely possible to check his assertions. And since he quotes indiscriminately from works of all grades in the hierarchy of scientific authority and works of no authority at all, nothing can be relied on. The omission of exact references naturally leads to carelessness in citation of the very names of the writers referred to. J. F. McLennan, to whom institutional archaeology owes so much, is almost unrecognisable as "Dr. MacLellan." The late Mr. W. C. Borlase always figures as "Borlace"; and, though repeatedly mentioned, his work on the dolmens of Ireland is positively omitted from the portentous bibliography which concludes the second volume, and only appears in the list of errata.

Mr. Wood-Martin's fear of inconvenient bulk is surely ironical. The volumes are printed on heavy glazed paper, in order to provide for innumerable illustrations, of which it may safely be said three-fourths are absolutely worthless or irrelevant. Many of them are purely imaginary. Many are reproductions from various popular magazines and from books long out of date. These might easily have been omitted with benefit to the reader. But, then, so might more than half the text.

* * *

OXFORD STUDIES. By John Richard Green, Edited by Mrs. J. R. Green and Miss K. Norgate. Eversley Series. London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd. 1901. 8vo., pp. xxxii, 302. Price 5s.

Oxford is a happy city that its *genius loci* should receive the homage of this delightful, if unpretentious, volume. Green's patriotic affection for "the storied past" of the English nation as a whole is here seen in miniature in the passionate piety in which he revered the history of his own birthplace. The result of his exploration of city records and the very journals and news-sheets of forgotten days, was the creation of a bundle of essays, for the republication of which we are duly grateful to Mrs. Green and her co-editor. Her biographical introduction, and the ample notes and index with which the volume ends, are a fit setting to the "Studies" themselves. To Green, who did not so love the University that he was blind to the more remote antiquities of the town, Oxford always remained the place where, "in its very system of training, the old and the new worlds are brought together as they are brought nowhere else." He found a multitude of instances to illustrate the conservatism of its two-sided life. And although the lively pictures of the eighteenth-century undergraduate—such as the sketch of the rapid metamorphosis of a bumpkin "freshman" into the "fop" collegiate, and the scenes of gaiety on the Merton terrace, or of revelry in "the High," will delight every Oxonian—there is plenty of pleasure here provided for those who are not sons (or daughters) of *Alma Mater*, but who love all memorials of the past. The fact is that even in these slight sketches, mostly penned in his early days for an Oxford newspaper, Green has thrown the charm of his literary power and art over his subject. He not

only records that the town preceded the 'Varsity, or that "the Jewish settlement began the cultivation of physical science in Oxford," but he makes us perceive the fuller and inner significance of these facts. The tale of Dr. Hyde, who gave the first great impulse to Oriental studies, but was obliged "to burn his unsaleable books to boil his kettle with," suggests at once the days when learning was much pursued for its own sake. With this guide, whose romance is drawn from the records of daily history, one moves in "Oxford of the first Georges, to see what men lived then, and what manner of life theirs was; to listen to their disputations, to smoke a pipe of Virginia with them in the common-room, or chat over a bowl of punch in the coffee-house." One meets in their youth men who lived to be famous and forgetful, perhaps, of the pranks and foibles of their college days. We are reminded how old Hearne remembered an old man whose memory included the Royalist traditions of 1640, and Charles, "a thin man, of a little picked beard and little whiskers." There are a thousand and more points of true antiquarian lore, whether of topography, nomenclature, and manners, or even of dress and the merest actual anecdotes, which make up this "patchwork." "Oxford during the eighteenth century" fills the bulk of the book, which closes with the daintiest essays on "Young Oxford" and "Oxford as it is." We beg leave to guess that the vivacious, saintly scholar, whose too early death called for his own epitaph that "he died learning," took a peculiar delight in the research and compilation of which this fascinating little volume is the long-delayed result.

* * *

SHROPSHIRE HOUSES, PAST AND PRESENT. Illustrated from drawings by Stanley Leighton, M.P., F.S.A. With descriptive letterpress by the artist. London: George Bell and Sons, 1901. Demy 4to., pp. xii, 50 (with fifty colotype plates). Price 21s. net.

The late Mr. Stanley Leighton was an enthusiastic as well as a discerning antiquary, and at the time of his much-regretted death had made with his own hand admirable drawings of nearly every old house in his county, which it was his intention to publish in sets. The handsome volume before us contains the first fifty drawings, and at the time of the author's death, was complete and in the hands of the printer. We trust that the welcome of which it is assured may encourage those who have the charge of the author's drawings and manuscripts to issue at least some further part of the ample material which Mr. Leighton had accumulated. Of the houses included in this volume few are of very great age. Only eight date from before 1500, five are of the sixteenth century, and six of the seventeenth. But among the oldest is the quaintly picturesque mansion of Pitchford, with its striking black-and-white walls, resting on a stone foundation and surmounted by a stone roof, from which rise red-brick chimney-stacks of delightful design. A much smaller but very interesting specimen of a mediæval house is The Moat Hall, Stapleton, which has been used as a farmhouse for very many years. Fine examples of

old "black-and-white" timbered houses are Park Hall, Marrington Hall, and the Tudor part of Albright Hussey. A charming example of the Elizabethan house is Plowden, built by the lawyer of proverbial celebrity. But to name all the attractive homes here pictured is impossible. The volume, which is only the first of a possible six, shows how rich the County of Shropshire is in fine houses, not only of mediæval and Tudor date, but of Georgian and later times. Every possessor of the book will feel grateful to the late Mr. Leighton for these beautiful fruits of his pencil, and will deeply regret the untimely end of his labours. The letterpress, it should be added, is adequate and accurate, though we have noticed one or two unfortunate misprints; on p. 3, for example, 1743 in line 3 should be 1443.

* * *

A POPULAR HISTORY OF THE ANCIENT BRITONS, OR THE WELSH PEOPLE. By Rev. John Evans, B.A. London: *Elliot Stock*, 1901. Large 8vo., pp. viii, 414. Price 10s. 6d. net.

Mr. Evans' narrative covers the whole period from the dawn of history to the close of the nineteenth century. The last two chapters, relating respectively the general history and the religious history of Wales from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century, are too brief to give more than an outline of their subjects, but they provide a very useful summary of the modern history of the Principality. Mr. Evans treats with great fulness not only of the mediæval period, but of the earlier times preceding the Norman Conquest of England, to which Mr. Edwards, in his book on Wales recently noticed in these columns, allotted so scant a share of space. He writes with judgment and sobriety—qualities eminently needed in dealing with a subject which has been so confused with myth and so distorted by the play of exaggerated national feeling; but his philology is weak and rather antiquated. Mr. Evans is specially to be commended for the attention he pays to the national literature. The book is satisfactorily produced, and there is a fair index.

* * *

LIVES AND LEGENDS OF THE EVANGELISTS, APOSTLES, AND OTHER EARLY SAINTS. By Mrs. Arthur Bell. Many plates. London: *George Bell and Sons*, 1901. Square 8vo., pp. xiv, 284. Price 14s. net.

We notice that this volume is to be followed by a companion dealing with "The Fathers of the Church, the Great Hermits and other Early Saints," and we infer that Mrs. Bell's purpose is to supplement the classical work of the late Mrs. Jameson with a record of later discoveries and the more accurate and adequate illustrations which the technical reproduction of to-day can supply. In the present volume, which is handsomely got-up and embellished with fifty plates drawn from schools as diverse as those of Fra Angelico and Holman Hunt, we are carried as far as the end of the third century of that Christian era, whose chief personages are portrayed. Mrs. Bell, whose pages exhibit an abundance of affectionate and diligent research, disclaims any praise

for being an initiator in her field. We occasionally wish for less prolixity (though there is a full index), and are inclined to think that the summary biographies could have been given (as in the case of St. Paul, even) more shortly and with a stricter adherence to recorded and historical facts. For, after all, students of history will turn elsewhere than to a volume like the present for this part of the subject. The merit of Mrs. Bell's volume is of another kind; with a due sense of "the evolution of popular belief," she makes it her chief business to trace this or that life, with its web of actual facts and its woof of legendary embellishment, in the records of fine art. Here she is on firmer ground, for she is, if we may courteously say it, no tyro in art-criticism. Mrs. Bell has gone far and wide for her "instances," and has wisely included in her always appropriate illustrations many relatively unknown masterpieces, such as the "Cenacolo," by Andrea del Sarto, and the charming "Madonna," by Francesco Bianchi, in the Louvre. Those readers who may seek some information concerning the accessories of the saints and their portrayal in art, will not be disappointed. We may instance the nimbus or halo surrounding the head, and sometimes the whole figure, of a saint; as Mrs. Bell rightly explains, this is not peculiar to Christian art, though she does not point out its probable and curiously prosaic origin in Greek statues and statuettes. She does, however, demonstrate what will surprise many, that, so far from it being applied only to the saints, it has been given to the prophets, to King Herod (in the Greek Menology), and even (by Giotto) to Judas. St. Paul, too, sometimes wears it even as early in his career, as portrayed by pious painters, as at the martyrdom of St. Stephen.

* * *

ENGLISH PUBLIC OPINION AFTER THE RESTORATION. By Gerald Berkeley Hertz, B.A. London: *T. Fisher Unwin*, 1902. 8vo., pp. 160. Price 3s. 6d. net.

This is a very readable and instructive little book. It does not contain anything very new, but it treats the familiar events of the fifty years which followed the restoration of Charles II. from a new standpoint—from the popular view, that is, of what was considered national duty and interest. What Mr. Hertz calls the "people's idea of politics—the idea of the private citizen and unrecognised pamphleteer"—this is the aspect of history of which this essay treats. Mr. Hertz's footnotes and references show that he has diligently examined the usual contemporary sources, but we think he might have drawn with advantage more illustrations from the poets and dramatists. The history of public opinion after the Restoration is practically the history of the development—half or more than half unconscious—of the influence of trade and business considerations on international relations. This development as affecting our relations with the Dutch in Charles II.'s time, in producing first a succession of wars and later an alliance, forms perhaps the most interesting part of Mr. Hertz's essay; but the whole of the little book, which is well printed and nicely "got up," is well worth reading.

NOTES ON STAFFORDSHIRE PLACE-NAMES. By W. H. Duignan. London: Henry Frowde, 1902. 8vo., pp. xx, 178. Price 4s. 6d. net.

In few directions has modern scholarship worked a more complete revolution than in the study and interpretation of place-names. Early writers of local history, and others who followed in their footsteps, made the most marvellous shots at the etymology of names; and, indeed, the days of guessing are by no means over. The labours of the late Dr. Taylor, Professor Skeat, and others, have scotched the snake of empiricism, but have not killed it. Mr. Duignan's little book is a valuable contribution to the comparatively small amount of serious work that has yet been done on the subject of place-names, and may be warmly commended to the notice of students. The author knocks on the head sundry long-cherished traditions and derivations of the "fairy-tale" order—see, for instance, the able note on "Lichfield" (pp. 91-95)—as every serious writer on names is bound to do; but he is never dogmatic where there is reasonable ground for doubt. We particularly appreciate the candour with which he prints Mr. W. H. Stevenson's opinions on certain disputed derivations, in several cases where they are in direct opposition to his own. Only those who have paid any attention to researches and studies of this kind will be able thoroughly to appreciate the amount of hard and conscientious labour which has gone to the making of Mr. Duignan's valuable little book.

* * *

We have received the *Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution* (Washington, D.C.) for 1900, a substantial volume of over 800 pages. Besides the annual reports, accounts, lists, etc., there are, as usual, a large number of valuable scientific papers; but only two or three of these touch on archaeological matters. There is a translation of a paper by Dr. Friedrich Delitzsch on "Discoveries in Mesopotamia," which does not contain anything very new, but is illustrated by some fine plates of photographs from slabs in the British Museum. Another translated paper is on "Ancient Desemers, or Steelyards," by Hermann Sökeland, illustrated by numerous sketches. There is also a capital contribution on "Chinese Folklore and some Western Analogies," by Frederick W. Williams.

* * *

Two interesting and well-illustrated booklets are before us. One, on *Dundee Market-Crosses and Tolbooths*, reaches us from the city on the Tay. It is written and published for private circulation by Mr. William Kidd, who has been in business in Dundee for fifty years, and who issues this attractive brochure in celebration of his completion of half a century of business life. We are interested to observe that Mr. Kidd has a *History of Ancient Dundee* in the press. The other booklet is an addition to the very useful series of "Homeland Handbooks" (paper 6d., cloth 1s.). It treats of Dawlish, Devon, and its neighbourhood, and is written by Miss B. F. Cresswell. Like its predecessors, it is very well illustrated, and is in every respect satisfactory.

* * *

Among the pamphlets on our table is a scholarly paper, issued by the Cambridge Antiquarian

Society, by Dr. M. R. James, on *The Verses formerly inscribed on Twelve Windows in the Choir of Canterbury Cathedral* (Macmillan and Bowes, price 2s.). Dr. James reprints the verses (which have appeared in type more than once before) from the earliest MS. authority—a roll now in the possession of the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral, the writing in which Dr. James attributes to the early part of the fourteenth century. The editor prefixes an introduction, and adds tables showing the probable arrangement of the contents of each window, with a note on the position of the windows. All ecclesiologists will value this pamphlet.

* * *

The *Ulster Journal of Archaeology* (January) offers its readers an unusually varied bill of fare. Specially interesting are papers on "The Cranoges of Lough Mourne," by Mr. G. E. Reilly; "Wooden Articles found in Peat Bogs," by Mr. W. J. Knowles; "The Church of Nendrum," by the late Bishop Reeves; and a note on a recent find of "Ancient Irish Bronze Trumpets," by Mr. F. J. Bigger. Mr. Dix continues his notes on "Ulster Bibliography," and other notes and papers complete a well-illustrated and most satisfactory part of the *Journal*.

* * *

We give a warm welcome to the new monthly, *The Country* (Messrs. J. M. Dent and Co.; price 6d. net), the first number of which (March) is before us. All subjects connected with rural life, including archaeology, are to be treated from a literary point of view, and if future issues are as good as this first number, the success of the venture is assured. The name of the publishers is a guarantee of beauty of production, and among the contents—more than two dozen items—are papers on "The Farm Sale," by Charles Marriott; "My Rectory Garden," by the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, F.S.A.; "John Parkinson," by A. F. Sieveking, F.S.A.; and "Sundials." The illustrations are excellent, but we wish a more convenient size of page had been chosen.

The *Genealogical Magazine* (March) has for frontispiece portraits (from the original in the possession of Lord Yarborough) of Mary Tudor, younger daughter of Henry VII., and her second husband, Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. The contents include papers on the families of Hicks, Holbrow, and Moutray of Seafeld and Roscobie; and notes on "Cockades," and "How to Deal with Difficult Questions of Pedigree." The most noteworthy item in the *Architectural Review* (March) is a fine plate of part of the tapestry recently discovered in strips attached to the wall behind the pictures in the long gallery at Hardwick Hall, and since skilfully put together at South Kensington. The fragments have been found to make a homogeneous set of four hangings, of which the first is reproduced in the plate before us. The number also contains a beautifully illustrated paper on "Avallon and Vézelay," by S. N. Vansittart.

We have also on our table the *Architects' Magazine* (February); *The American Author* (January); the first number of *La Nuova Parola* (January), a new illustrated review issued from Rome (Via del Mortaro, 23); and *Sale Prices* (February).

Correspondence.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, DUBLIN.

TO THE EDITOR.

In the review of my little work in December's number of the *Antiquary*, it is stated that the term "furred amice" which I used in reference to the Prior's cloak was "not quite correct," as the word should be "almuce," and this should not be confounded with the linen amice.

I distinctly mentioned that this was so, but allow me to state that it was not incorrect to use the term "amice" when describing the cloak, for "amice" and "almuce" are used interchangeably, together with various other spellings, such as "amye," "amys," "amye," all of which meant a loose wrap or cloak.

"A palmer's amice wrapped him round."

(SCOTT: *Lady of the Lake*.)

The word "almuce," which your reviewer says I should have used, is also applied to a furred hood having long ends hanging down the front of the dress, something like the stole worn by the clergy from the thirteenth to the fifteenth centuries for warmth when officiating in the church during inclement weather.

You may say "furred amice" or "furred almuce," just as you prefer to write it.

WILLIAM BUTLER.

Dublin,
January 18, 1902.

We submitted this letter to our reviewer, whose reply follows:

"I must allow that I expressed myself unguardedly in supposing that Mr. Butler did not distinguish between the amice, which he rightly terms a sacerdotal vestment, and that garment of religious and of clerics more commonly called an 'almuce.' My objection was rather to the practice of many of even our best English dictionaries in ignoring the use of the latter characteristic term. That both the one and the other mean a shoulder-piece so adapted as to serve for a head-covering is well known. But there is great doubt whether the two words come from a common root. The valuable Cassinese additions to Ferraris' great work, while admitting that 'amictus' or 'amice' is Latin in origin, consider reasonable the derivation of 'almuce' in its various forms from the Teutonic (*mutze*=head). Again, he notices a supposed derivation of 'almutium' from *armus*, the Latin for shoulder. However it may be, the ambolagium, anagolagium, old forms of the word 'amice,' have certainly nothing to do with the almuce. It should particularly be noticed that in ancient ceremonial use both the amice and the almuce were at times worn together. Thus, in the twelfth century, when Canon Benedict wrote his *Ordo*, he directs that the

Pope on Maundy Thursday, having the amuce over his albe, and over that again his dalmatics, should take off his chasuble and cover his shoulders and head with the almuce.*

"Pope Innocent III. (early thirteenth century) directs the wearing of two shoulder-coverings, one under the albe, which he calls an 'amice' (*amictus*), tied before the breast with two strings or *ligulis*, to be spread over the shoulders of the Pontiff; the other, to which he gives the name of 'orale,' in hood form, assumed after the albe, but thrown back over it under the dalmatics.†

"As an ecclesiastical vestment the linen amice, described as a *sindon*, was probably introduced in the seventh century. The early Pontificals give a special prayer to be said when it was put on. Canons and monks alike wore it; but it never was an efficient or practical head-covering, except when held in its place by a monk's hood. Now Canons and other clergy equally needed a covering for the head, as birettas and so forth were unknown. Some appear to have attempted the adoption of a monastic cowl or hooded dress. Amalarius (ninth century), in his *Rule for Canons*, inveighs much against this practice. As a substitute the Canons appear to have taken refuge in the furry and warm almuce. Later it has been looked upon as a special distinction of the higher clergy. The Roman Congregation of Rites frequently legislates on the subject. It is never of linen, as the true amice is bound to be. When not used as a hood, it is never spread over the shoulders as the latter is, but invariably carried loosely on the arm. Lastly, it is of its nature an outer garment, the true amice, on the contrary, being a part of the under apparel."

* "The wearing of the almuce over the albe was a very old custom (see the first, third and fifth of the *Ordines Romani*). It is now obsolete, except at Milan, in the churches of certain regulars, and, if I mistake not, in some of the Eastern rites."

† "I do not say this is a true almuce, but the Pontiff, learned in liturgical matters, plainly refuses to call it an amice."

NOTE TO PUBLISHERS.—We shall be particularly obliged to publishers if they will always state the price of books sent for review.

TO INTENDING CONTRIBUTORS.—Unsolicited MSS. will always receive careful attention, but the Editor cannot return them if not accepted unless a fully stamped and directed envelope is enclosed. To this rule no exception will be made.

It would be well if those proposing to submit MSS. would first write to the Editor stating the subject and manner of treatment.

Letters containing queries can only be inserted in the "ANTIQUARY" if of general interest, or on some new subject. The Editor cannot undertake to reply privately, or through the "ANTIQUARY," to questions of the ordinary nature that sometimes reach him. No attention is paid to anonymous communications or would-be contributions.